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Obamacare needs another look



Obamacare made a lot of sense. Everyone would sign up for affordable health care, and because everyone was signed up the price would decrease because people would be healthier. But the devil is in the details, and as the law now stretches into its sixth year, lots of things about the law are not working.

The biggest problem lies in the program's true costs. Insuring everyone and expanding benefits is a lot more expensive than anticipated. Community Health, one of New Hampshire's Obamacare-created nonprofit health insurance companies, pulled out of New Hampshire's individual health exchange because it had an unexpected loss of \$18 million. This is a nationwide trend — Obamacare-created insurers are scaling back or closing in almost every state where they exist. Newly insured people are proving more sick than thought and many of the healthier people are staying out of the exchanges (and preferring to pay the fines).

Many say the insurance is too expensive when deductibles are included. Deductibles can easily reach \$3,000 a year, which means that on top of paying a monthly insurance premium, if these folks use any of the medical services, they have to pay out of pocket until the total annual cost exceeds \$3,000. If people opt out of being in this system, they are forced to pay 2.5 percent of their income or \$695 per person, whichever is higher. More and more of the working poor are going to opt for the fine, creating an additional tax burden on people already struggling.

There were two goals for Obamacare: decrease the number of uninsured and slow the growth of insurance costs. For now Obamacare has definitely worked for the former. More than 20 million additional people have been insured through expanded Medicaid or through required employer coverage or through the exchanges. But how long will that last? As the federal government contributes smaller amounts to Medicaid, states will reduce Medicaid benefits. Same for the insurance: As people experience the high deductibles and realize it's cheaper to pay the fine, they will opt out of the system. We're already seeing those things happen.

On the cost side, it's hard to show that cost increases would have been more or less with or without Obamacare. But we can all see that cost increases in insurance have continued to exceed inflation. Some states' insurance plans are looking at nearly 50-percent increases. As unlikely as this is, my hope is that a new president will look at the law to see what is working and what isn't and will work with Congress to make the appropriate changes. As it is now, the program is fraying.



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ON THE COVER

12 PLAN YOUR SUMMER FUN

It may be cold and snowy still, but it's time to start planning your kids' summer vacation. The Hippo's annual guide has all kinds of camps, from sports to theater, music to dance, daylong to overnight. Check out this year's guide to find the perfect camp for your kids. If you know of an awesome camp that's not listed here, email the info to listings@hippopress.com and we will include it in a future issue.



ALSO ON THE COVER, it's time to vote in the Hippo's annual Best of readers' poll! See page 35 for details on how to vote for your favorite local people, places and things. Plus, the Farmers Dinner season is starting, and it's kicking off with a pop-up taqueria (p. 38).

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DCYF review

While the Division of Children, Youth and Families is being reviewed by the state Attorney General's office and a legislative committee, a third entity will soon start its own review. The Union Leader reported the governor's office will initiate a review of DCYF through a third party contracted without a bidding process. Spokespeople at the governor's office say they are in negotiations with a third-party reviewer already and the contract will come up during a future Governor and Executive Council meeting. The office hopes the review process will look into how recent child death cases were handled, staffing, caseloads, training and the laws in place meant to protect children.

Meanwhile, Manchester Police Chief Nick Willard has softened his stance on DCYF after publicly criticizing the agency for not doing enough to protect a toddler killed allegedly by her mother and for not cooperating with the police investigation. The Union Leader reported Willard met with DCYF director Lorraine Bartlett and staff to apologize for his remarks, saying he was caught up in the emotions of the moment. Sadie Willott, a 21-month-old girl, was found in her apartment with blunt impact injuries to her head last September. She was rushed to the hospital, where she succumbed to her injuries. Her mother, Katlin Paquette, is charged with second-degree murder. Willard's criticisms spurred a legislative review committee to draft a bill that would allow for more information-sharing between law enforcement and DCYF.

Primary threats

The New Hampshire primary's first-in-the-nation status went unchallenged this year, but efforts are already underway to unseat early-voting states for the next election cycle. The Union Leader reported a member of the Republican National Committee from Utah, Enid Mickelsen, has submitted a resolution first proposed by Texas GOP Chairman Tom Melcher that would remove the protected status of Iowa, New Hampshire, South Carolina and

Nevada. The resolution would preclude candidates from earning delegates in any state if they place their name on a ballot in a state that is not on the prescribed calendar. Other critics fear New Hampshire's cherished status is already under threat by the growing influence of national party bosses and media outlets through the debate process.

People's pledge?

Republican U.S. Sen. Kelly Ayotte and Democratic Gov. Maggie Hassan have exchanged volleys via email press releases as the two campaigns for the senate seat have begun to ramp up. NHPR reported at the center of the email war is the so-called people's pledge, which would limit the influence of outside political groups in this high-profile race. Ayotte first proposed the pledge on Feb. 11, which called for the campaigns to work together to discourage third-party spending. But Hassan refused to sign it and instead created a pledge of her own, dubbed it the "strengthened" people's pledge and specified a \$15 million cap for each campaign. Ayotte's campaign said Hassan's counter offer was an effort to "kill" the pledge without rejecting it. \$2.6 million has been spent by outside groups so far.

Lice

Some members of the Manchester school board are concerned about a change in policy last school year that gave schools more leeway when finding kids with head lice. The Union Leader reported kids found to be infested with lice are no longer sent home immediately and periodic lice examinations no longer happen. But critics on the board say parents are complaining that this new policy is not working and lice are more likely to be spread than before.

Gatsas for gov?

It's a wide open race for governor as Gov. Maggie Hassan goes after the U.S. Senate seat and Manchester Mayor Ted Gatsas may take a stab at a gubernatorial run, the Union Leader reported. Gatsas said he is "seriously considering" a run, something he's

considered in past elections as well. Gatsas won his fourth term as mayor about three months ago. Other Republicans are already in the race, including Executive Councilor Chris Sununu and State Rep. Frank Edelblut, and Democrats Mark Connolly and Executive Councilor Colin Van Ostern are also running.

Polling video

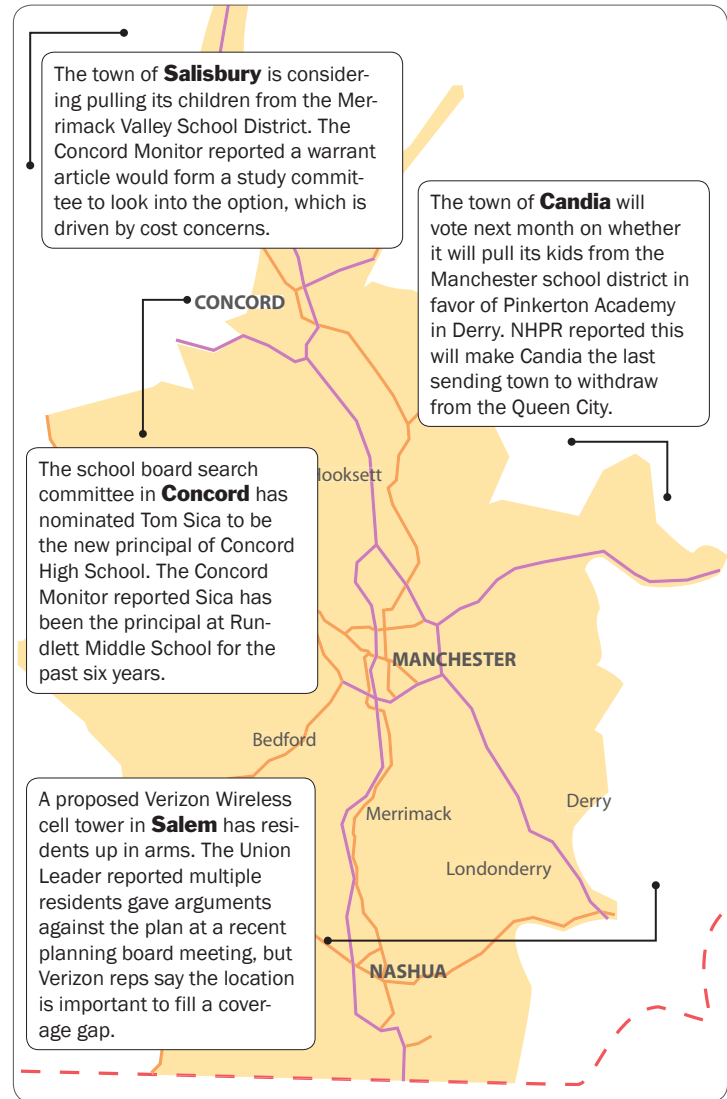
Another undercover video produced by conservative activist James O'Keefe taken ostensibly at New Hampshire polling places during the primary purports to show voter fraud. A similar video was produced by O'Keefe during the 2012 primary. NHPR reported that the video is heavily edited and the Attorney General's office is investigating it to see if any illegal activity occurred.

Overdose count

The state's office of the Chief Medical Examiner has released the latest count of drug overdose victims in 2015. The toll is now up to 414 drug-related deaths. There were 326 in 2014 and 192 in 2013. The number could continue to rise as the ME's office is still awaiting test results from 22 more cases. The vast majority of the deaths (380) were associated with opioids, and fentanyl alone contributed to 155 deaths so far.

All-day kindergarten

The House killed a bill that would have provided funding for communities to offer full-day kindergarten. NHPR reported the vote was cast along party lines,



with Republicans voting against it, citing cost. Proponents of the bill say it would not have required full-day kindergarten but would have supplied resources to communities that already offer it.

Unspent money

An audit by the legislative budget assistant discovered more than 100 people with disabilities were placed on waiting lists while \$20

million in general funds appropriated for health department services went unspent in fiscal year 2015. The Union Leader reported it would have cost the state \$5 million to address the needs of the 109 people with developmental disabilities or acquired brain disorders. Since it did not spend the money, the state could not draw upon matching federal Medicaid dollars. 🌈

BEST WEEK

SEN. JERRY LITTLE

Gov. Maggie Hassan has nominated Republican state Sen. Jerry Little of Weare to head the New Hampshire Banking Department. The Concord Monitor reported Hassan cited Little's "extensive" experience in the banking industry. Little was elected to his first term in 2014 and serves on the Senate Finance Committee, which works on the state budget. Little was the president of the New Hampshire Bankers Association and the executive director of the New Hampshire Bankers Association Insurance Trust for two decades. Senate President Chuck Morse said in a press release that he supports the nomination. The Executive Council will have to approve Little's appointment.

WORST WEEK

LEGAL POT BILL

The House killed a bill on Feb. 11 that would have made the recreational use of marijuana legal. The Union Leader reported that the bill would have also taxed the plant \$15 per ounce of leaves and \$350 per ounce of flowers. Flowers are much more potent than leaves and can be used to grow new plants. The bill would have made it legal for individuals to grow up to six plants. It would have remained illegal for residents younger than 21 to consume. Proponents argued the drug is safer than alcohol, which claimed 50,000 lives nationally in 2015. Critics cited the drug crisis and concerns that it would fall into the hands of young people, and noted that law enforcement would be unable to test drivers who may be high and there would be no way to tax plants people grow in their home.

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Home stations

How commuter rail would affect the housing market

By Ryan Lessard
news@hippopress.com

Residential properties close to proposed rail stations in Nashua and Manchester that would connect commuters to the Boston area would likely see values jump if the stations are built, experts say.

Positive impacts

Much has been made of the potential economic impacts of a new commuter rail from Boston through Lowell up to Manchester. Firms commissioned to study those impacts report that the new corridor would spur new development, create jobs, drive municipal revenues and grow the local economy in general. And it seems home values would likely get a boost too.

"Besides the addition of jobs, new commercial square footage and new housing, the property values within a half a mile of the rail station, or the multi-mobile station, as we're calling them, would increase substantially," said David Preece, the executive director of the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission. "That's kind of the rule of thumb of what we've seen with other developments when passenger rail was introduced or reintroduced into a community."

Studies of how housing markets were affected by new rail systems in other parts of the country seem to largely support this.

One study by consulting firm Booz Allen Hamilton found that the introduction of rail transit in parts of California, New Jersey, Florida and Pennsylvania raised property values to homes close to stations by between about 4 and 38 percent compared to similar homes farther away.

Dean Christon, the executive director of the New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority, says this spike in values is a function of increased demand because peo-

Where rail plans stand now

Since lawmakers voted against fronting the full bill for the next stage of development, officials are looking at options that would more closely mirror the public-private partnership that led to the redevelopment of the Hooksett rest areas. Democratic Executive Councilors Colin Van Ostern and Chris Pappas proposed a plan that would have private developers build the four train stations (two in Manchester and two in Nashua), charge \$6 a day for station parking, and create a tax district so the rail helps pay for itself. After the federal and Massachusetts investment, New Hampshire would be on the hook to pay \$5 million each year.

ple want to live close to train stations.

"The farther you get from the rail line, the less impact it has, obviously," Christon said.

The demand for New Hampshire housing property would likely be driven by people looking to work in Massachusetts, he said.

"It is likely that an improvement in the ability of people to get from, say, Manchester to the job market in northern Massachusetts would cause an increase in the demand for housing. So you probably would see additional pressure on the housing markets. In the short term, that could actually mean that prices would go up for both rental housing and for single-family housing," Christon said.

Whether that's a net positive for the housing market, Christon is unsure. It would more likely benefit those looking to sell properties close the rail stations rather than those competing to buy.

"It's only going to have an impact on the housing market if it actually encourages people who are now living in, say, northern Massachusetts to come live here, because it's now easier for them to commute," Christon said.

While no one knows with 100 percent certainty how housing prices will be affected by a new commuter rail line, the impact of major transportation routes has precedent in New Hampshire.

"Just a couple years ago, we did a series of focus groups and we talked about the dynamics of the real estate market. One of the things we got from that was people were pretty clear that it was easier to sell a house and the value of houses were stronger the closer you were to the 93 corridor, for instance, and/or the route 3 corridor," Christon said.

Debbie Gallant, president of sales at Berkshire Hathaway Verani Realty, is confident rail will be a good thing.

"Any time that you have any type of expansion for transportation, whether it be a new roadway, whether it be the Manchester Airport or whether it be access to a new commuting route, it always improves the real estate in the area," Gallant said. "When you take a look at the Southern New Hampshire sector, it's really a Boston bedroom community."

Gallant commutes from Boston to New

Hampshire and she used to live in Newburyport, Massachusetts, before rail reached the now popular port city.

"Once [rail] came in, real estate opportunities as well as development and people seeing that area as an option to live in increased," Gallant said. "I think an expansion of the rail system [in New Hampshire] would be huge."

Development

David Preece says a new commuter rail line would also likely create the conditions for a boom in housing development.

"If commuter rail were brought up to Manchester, which makes the most sense, there would be an additional 1,898,000

square feet of new commercial space developed and over 3,600 new residential units that will be needed in order to support this," Preece said, citing a recent study of the project.

The study also estimates rail would add thousands of jobs.

"After the 10 years, it will be like

exponential. So, this is like a Christmas that keeps on giving to the state of New Hampshire," Preece said.

Christon is less certain the new developments will take shape so quickly.

"There are counter-pressures against that kind of growth at the local level for many reasons. So it's not a simple process," Christon said.

He thinks that once that process takes its course, the initially high property values owners will likely enjoy in the short term after a rail line is put in will even out in the long run.

Christon says new demand putting pressure on home values to rise would make buying residential property a good investment "if you knew for certain that there was going to be a rail line and had a good sense of the timeline of when it was going to be there."

Negative effects?

The Booz Allen Hamilton study says there can be negative impacts on housing markets when rail is introduced, caused by factors like noise, traffic, safety or aesthetics.

Christon says there may be a few indi-

“...The property values within a half a mile of the rail station ... would increase substantially.”

DAVID PREECE

Paying for the future

Bill pairs private investors with public education

By Ryan Lessard
news@hippopress.com

If 60 children in Manchester are put in early childhood education, the district will save \$311,000 in taxpayer expense later on because it won't need as much special education.

That's according to a recent study by PolEcon Research, says Sen. David Watters, and that's the impetus behind a bill he's sponsoring that would get more kids into pre-kindergarten.

The bill would create a commission to set up a system for funding pre-kindergarten education through a model known colloquially as "pay for success" financing.

"The risk in these programs is on private investors who will buy the bonds to pay for the programming for four to five years of providing early childhood education," Watters said. "What we've identified is that the real marker of cost savings and that you've helped kids is at that third-grade level. Have you reduced the number of children who need special education remediation and who have deficits in third-grade reading? Only if there are savings there do the bondholders get paid off."

If the bill gets passed, the commission will begin work to define the criteria for a quality early childhood education, identify the education providers and set metrics for education outcomes. An independent review process would be in place for determining whether those metrics are met and investors get a return on their investment.

"If there haven't been savings, guess what? They don't get paid. But the indications are that they certainly will be," Watters said.

While lawmakers may debate the finer points of the bill, Watters says the verdict is already in when it comes to the benefits of early childhood education.

◀ 6 visual cases where property is affected negatively.

"It depends on where the rail line goes. If you have an active railway line very proximate to a residential property that didn't used to be there, it is likely that there's going to be some diminution of value in that particular piece of property," Christon said. "You kind of have these two counter-vailing forces. You're close to the highway, which means access is good, and that tends to improve value, but it might be a little noisier, and is that going to be a negative on the value. That's going to be very much case by case."

Preece is optimistic that such concerns are unfounded given current noise-cancel-

"The kid who doesn't have early childhood education from a difficult background is 50 percent more likely to have problems and need special education, is 30 percent more likely to drop out, is 60 percent more likely not to go to college, is 40 percent more likely to have early teenage pregnancy, 70 percent more likely to have criminal justice system involvement later on," Watters said. "I think the case for early childhood education is made. But, as always in New Hampshire, can we be innovative in finding a way to fund it?"

Watters says the model has already shown to have success in other parts of the country, like Utah.

"It's been underway most significantly in Salt Lake City," Watters said. "The bondholders out there are getting paid off because they're saving so much money for that first-year cohort. And similar reports are appearing in Chicago, which is the largest program of this sort."

Watters said he crafted the bill with the help of the New Hampshire Children's Trust, the Save the Children Action Network and the Institute for Child Success. They've already had talks with the New Hampshire Bankers Association, Goldman Sachs and the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation with those organizations showing interest in the program. And there may even be some federal money available if a bill backed by Sen. Kelly Ayotte is passed.

While the bill is co-sponsored by prominent Republicans like Senate Majority Leader Jeb Bradley, Watters is hesitant to predict broad bipartisan support. But he is hopeful that the fact that the bill doesn't use public financing will win over conservatives.

"It's innovative, and it has that kind of Holy Grail of outcomes-based financing, which a lot of people who are fiscally conservative like myself are very interested in," Watters said. 🌩

ling technology.

"We're talking about the 21st century. Passenger rail is not an obnoxious use," Preece said.

While Realtors aren't necessarily championing rail in terms of home values, they do support commuter rail itself.

"The New Hampshire Association of Realtors supports any responsible improvements to our transportation system inasmuch as it would provide an additional option for access to our great state. Anything that helps make New Hampshire a more attractive option to live and work is a win," New Hampshire Realtors Association President Al Michalovic said in an email. 🌩

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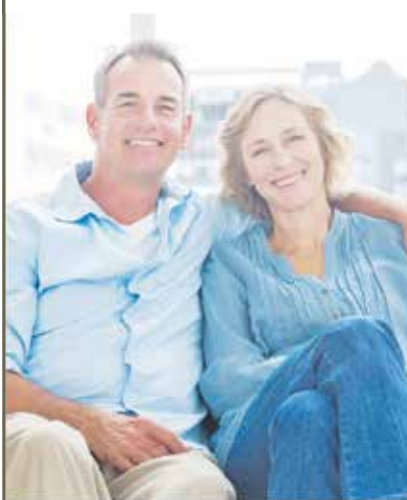
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They will survive

Karaoke night offers a sober good time

Jay Malette of Manchester is a local DJ and the owner of his own karaoke company, KJaye Entertainment. He recently began hosting a weekly karaoke night at a gathering place for recovering addicts of drugs and alcohol. (The event, which takes place every Friday from 7 p.m. to 11 at 140 Central Street in Manchester, is open to the public. Want to help? Contact Dennis Dutra at info@recoverynh.org.)

Q: *How did this weekly karaoke night get started?*

I just heard about it through a DJ group on Facebook. Someone else, another DJ, had heard about it, but he was already working Friday nights so he put it out there for anyone else who'd like to take it. I got the guy's number so I gave him a call and the guy who was looking to hire someone — he's Dennis Dutra over at the recovery center — he basically gave me the background that they're a community center, they don't really offer treatment for recovering addicts, but it's sort of a support center. He wanted to provide them with a safe environment that would give them some quality entertainment so they'd have somewhere to go to kind of show them that they can have fun without drugs or alcohol.



Jay Malette

keep coming back week after week. One girl told me it's the highlight of her entire week. ... [The people who attend are] focused on getting better. So, this is one of their few opportunities that they can go out with their friends in a safe environment and just let loose and have fun. ... There's another guy who comes week to week. He's completely an ardent fan of Bruce Springsteen, so his favorite thing to do is belt out Bruce Springsteen tunes. We call him Mike Springsteen, Bruce's younger brother, and he seems to love that.

Why is this important for people in recovery from addiction?

From what I understand of people in recovery, and I've known alcoholics, it's hard for them to be around people who are drinking and be in bars and things of that nature when they're trying to recover from their own addictions. So it's not so easy for them to just walk into a bar if they want karaoke entertainment. Unfortunately, that's the only place where you can experience karaoke, is in bars, unless it's some kind of private event. So, when I showed up with my professional gear at their center, they were pretty pleasantly surprised that they had a real-life karaoke host there.

What has the reaction been to this so far?

Extremely positive. People come in and they get excited. They're looking to grab the book and get started. They already have ideas of what they want to sing. The people that showed up the first night, many of them — probably more than half of them, and we had about 30 people the very first night ...

How is the program funded?

When I first started, I was told that it would be sponsored. It would be a sponsored event. I think the people at the recovery center have some connections with the business owners in the area. ... They'll pay the cost of the karaoke entertainment plus I think they'll supply some of the food, the refreshments. ... I think at this point, now that we've done a few, they're looking to reach other sources for sponsorship, possibly. We also put out a donation basket when people come in, because they don't need to buy refreshments. It's already provided for them. ... But [I believe] a lot of these people are low-income and they might only have a few bucks.

How would you respond to some who might be critical of donating money to entertain recovering addicts?

The way I see it, why not provide these people with entertainment? These people are going through a very difficult time, but they're doing something to better themselves. The people that I've met seem like wonderful people that have come very far in their recovery. ... It means a lot to them just to be able to go out and have something fun to do.

Is there a popular song that gets requested a lot?

Rachel Platten, "Fight Song." That has been sung at every event so far, usually twice, by two different people. It seems to be a theme song to that kind of environment and people just go crazy for it.

— Ryan Lessard

Five favorites

Favorite Book: *The Total Money Makeover* by Dave Ramsey

Favorite Movie: *Hitch*

Favorite Musician: Weird Al Yankovic

Favorite Food: Seafood like boiled shellfish

Favorite Thing About NH: The variety of scenery

QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Sign harvest

There's an abundant and untapped natural resource in New Hampshire that sprouts from the ground along roadways and in front lawns every four years: political campaign signs. Untapped, that is, until now. The AP reported a University of New Hampshire professor goes foraging for unwanted and discarded signs with the names of candidates who have dropped from the race for president and the like because of the versatile corrugated plastic the signs are made from. Professor Therese Willkomm brings the signs back to her occupational therapy students, who use the plastic to make items that make the lives of the disabled a little bit easier, including iPad stands, clips to hold sandwiches and a cell phone holder mounted to a wheelchair.

QOL Score: +1

Comment: *It's good to know the temporary signs, which can be eyesores to many, can be used in a more long-term and constructive way.*

Underemployment stat

New Hampshire may have among the lowest rates of unemployment in the nation, but there are emerging signs that Granite Staters are not working the full-time, well-paid-with-benefits jobs they want. The Union Leader reported that temp agency staffing has grown by more than 25 percent over the past decade with the number of people employed as temps increasing from 8,000 to 10,000. The sectors where most temp workers are assigned include high-tech, manufacturing, healthcare and office and administration.

QOL Score: -1

Comment: *According to the state Department of Employment Security, 20 percent of the nearly 17,300 online job ads in New Hampshire between September and October were posted by staffing agencies.*

For planning northern getaways

Looking to head up north this winter season? New Hampshire Grand, the official visitor information resource for northern New Hampshire, announced the launch of two websites to attract, assist and guide those planning visits to the region: nhgrand.com (promoting attraction, activities, dining, lodging) and ridethewilds.org (promoting 1,000 miles of interconnected ATV trails, the only system of its kind in the Northeast). According to a press release, the sites incorporate the latest technologies to display optimally on computers, cellphones and tablets.

QOL Score: +1

Comment: *"Part of what makes our region attractive is that many people have not experienced the unique activities and scenery we offer. These websites look to familiarize them with the region in a simple, straight-forward manner," New Hampshire Grand Marketing Manager Karl Stone said in a press release.*

Stuck in a tram

According to WMUR, 48 people, including one baby, spent Valentine's Day afternoon stuck, 50 to 75 feet from top and bottom terminals, on a tram at Cannon Mountain due to mechanical issues that caused the tram braking system to be activated and stay on. Blankets were sent up to the top car to keep riders warm, and lift operator Courtney Lockhart gave her coat to 8-month-old Remy Lewis's family about an hour after they became stuck, according to WMUR. Evacuation began about an hour after that, with no injuries to report.

QOL Score: -1

Comment: *Thanks to Lockhart, baby Remy fell right to sleep and will hopefully forget the whole fiasco.*

QOL score: 64

Net change: 0

QOL this week: 64

What's affecting your Quality of Life here in New Hampshire? Let us know at news@hippypress.com.

75

50



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Spotlight shines on the NBA



With football out of the way, we can finally get down to the team causing the most excitement around here, at least in my house: your Boston Celtics. So it's time to talk about the NBA as it gets back to work

after the All-Star break. We'll do that in two parts over the next two weeks. With the trading deadline on Friday, we'll look at the big stories, trade rumors and where the NBA stands and then what lies ahead in the stretch run to the playoffs for the Celtics next week. So in case you ain't been paying attention, here's what's been happening:

The top story is Golden State, led by the brilliant **Steph Curry**, jumping out 24-0 and on track to pass the Bulls' all-time record 72 regular-season wins. That's followed by the hoo-ha of **Kobe Bryant**'s retirement tour, which seems odd since I didn't think he was that popular.

Tim Duncan passing **Kareem Abdul Jabbar** for having the most career NBA wins over 500 (588) is the least appreciated and most under-reported great story.

With him going out for six weeks after breaking his hand in the bout, Clippers PF **Blake Griffin** getting beat up by the assistant equipment manager is the most absurd.

Yao Ming voted into the Hall of Fame? Really? What am I missing?

Please, please, please, **Danny**, do not bring **Dwight Howard** here on Friday. I don't care what the numbers say. That guy cares about the money and lifestyle, not about winning.

However, I'm interested in the rumored but unlikely three-way swap sending **Carmelo Anthony** to Cleveland and **Kevin Love** to Boston, with draft picks and players going to New York. But not if it involves any of the Brooklyn picks or **Amir Johnson**, whose interior D will

be needed given Love's softness in that area. But I'm OK with some combination of the other 2016 first-round picks (theirs and Dallas'), five second-round picks along with **Terry Rozier**, **RJ Harris**, **James Young** and **Jared Sullinger** or **Kelly Olynyk**, who'd be redundant with Love here.

Given all their success this century it's hard to believe **Kawhi Leonard** is the first San Antonio starter of an All-Star game besides Duncan since **David Robinson** in 1993. Amazing for a team that's won five titles.

With a league-leading and career-best 11.9 assists a game, it's a nice bounce-back year for **Rajon Rondo** in that looney bin in Sacramento. After shooting himself in the head with bizarre behavior in Dallas last winter it'll be interesting to see if this restores his reputation league-wide.

More evidence **Chris Paul** is the most overrated player in NBA history comes from his being sixth in ESPN's recent ranking of the Top 10 all-time point guards. How does a guy who's never gotten by the second round in any NBA playoff rank ahead of **Jason Kidd**, who carried the Nets on his back to two straight finals, or two-time MVP **Steve Nash**?

How weird a year has it been in the coaching ranks when **Luke Walton** wins coach of the month in November when not getting credit for any of those wins while filling in for recuperating Golden State head man **Steve Kerr**, who did get credit for all Walton's wins even though he was on a couch somewhere watching it all on TV?

Then six weeks later, a guy (**David Blatt**) on pace to win 60 gets fired because his best player (**LeBron**) doesn't like him, a guy (**Tyronn Lue**), who got the job only because said best player (**LeBron** again) likes him gets named East coach of the All-Star game with three career wins instead

of the one (**Blatt** again) who earned the right, or more deserving guys like Toronto's **Dwane Casey** or even **Brad Stevens** who actually coached during the first half.

Although what I am sure of, is sooner or later, talking points empty suit **Marco Rubio** will blame it all on **President Obama**.

From the **James Carville** "It's the players, stupid" department, here's the updated career win-loss record of **Phil Jackson** disciples **Jim Clemons** (28-70), **Bill Cartwright** (51-100), **Kurt Rambis** (56-146), **Derek Fisher** (40-96) and mentor/inventor **Tex Winter** (51-78) while using his beloved triangle without the benefit of having **Michael Jordan**, **Scottie Pippen**, **Shaq** and **Kobe** to run it: 226 and 490. That's a winning percentage of 31.6 and says to me that only an egomaniac or an idiot thinks the triangle had anything to do with those 11 titles Phil won while always having two of that Big 4 playing as he won them.

If you want further evidence, while **Steve Kerr** did a great job at Golden State reversing the negativity of the **Mark Jackson** regime, his players still charted their historic pace while he was on that couch.

After seeing the West score a ridiculous 196 points, it's official: The NBA All-Star Game is even more of a joke than the Pro Bowl. Though both still trail the NHL's.

Finally, of course GS should go after the Bulls' record for regular-season wins. Only the sky-is-falling worrywarts and **Bill Polian** wouldn't think passing **Michael Jordan**'s Bulls' 72 wins shouldn't be pursued. Though, like it was for 68-win Celtics in 1973, it would ring a bit hollow if they won 73 and not the title. But that doesn't mean they should be afraid of trying. The bar is set and greatness tries to jump over it.

Email Dave Long at dlong@hippo-press.com.

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11 and counting for West

Who's Hot: That would be the West basketball team, whose winning streak hit 11 after routs of 80-52 over St. Thomas and 70-44 over neighboring Goffstown. Joe Simpson was high man both nights with 23 points vs. St. Thomas and 19 against G-town. **Akok (squared) Akok** went for 11 rebounds, 9 points and 4 blocks against St. Thomas while **Keenan Caron** and **Corey Descoteaux** combined for 27 in the Goffstown win as the Blue Knights moved to 11-1.

Sports 101: Who has the most rebounds by a guard in NBA history?

Bragging Rights Hockey Game of the Week: Goes to Bishop Guertin for its 2-1 win over rival Bedford that pushed the Cardinals to 11-1 and dropped the Bulldogs a game behind at 10-2. **Justin Pearson** got the first BG goal and the game-winner came off the stick of **Cam Fagan** late in the second period. Those were sandwiched around a Bedford goal from **Tyler Gamble**.

Jacob Perrin got the win in nets for BG with a strong effort when he stopped 21 of the 22 shots that came his way.

Bragging Rights Basketball Game of

the Week: It was the tilt between the Bedford and Pinkerton girls when both teams came in 11-3. The Bulldogs left 12-3 after winning big 59-39 over the suddenly reeling Astros, who've now lost three of their last four. With no scorers in double digits it was a total team effort for B-town, who were led by **Nicole Tucci** with nine points.

Stat Sheet Fillers: It comes from Trinity's **Ashely Hill**, who had 16 points, six rebounds and four assists in the Pioneers' 41-29 win over Nashua North while **Jenoyce Laniyan** had 10 rebounds, three blocks and six points in the aforementioned Bedford win. **Sports 101 Answer:** With 8,725 **Jason Kidd** is the all-time rebound leader among NBA guards, which is more than Hall of Fame centers **Alonzo Mourning** and **Willis Reed**.

On This Date – Feb. 18: 1969 – LSU's **Pete Maravich** goes for 66 points in a 101-94 loss to Tulane. **1995** – **John Stockton** becomes the first to reach 10,000 assists in NBA history. **2001** – **Dale Earnhardt Sr.** dies on the final lap at the Daytona 500 at age 49. 🌩

The Numbers

2 – late third-period goals from **Tyler Chipman** to propel Trinity to a 3-1 win over Pinkerton after entering the period tied at 1-1 in part thanks to the 26 saves by **Curtis Wirbal**.

4 – write-in votes **Tom Brady** got in the recent first-in-the-nation presidential primary, placing him just behind former Virginia Governor **Jim Gilmore**.

16 & 19 – career high points scored by Lon-

donderry's **Cody Ball** and **Harrison Taggart** as Saint Anselm moved to 18-4 with a 93-59 rout of Assumption.

22 – points scored by **Jenna Chrabolowski** when the Central girls downed Exeter 58-42 on Tuesday as running mate **Amanda Gaudreault** threw in another 19.

25 – game-high points from **Brandon (great) Scott** as Memorial blasted Bishop Guertin 80-57 on the road Friday night.

30 – saves from Merimack net-minder **Greg**

Amato as he pitched a shut-out to push the Tomahawks' winning streak to eight with a 4-0 win over Winnacunnet when they got a goal apiece from **Aaron Tupper (ware)**, **Jeff Gerhard**, **Kyle Feeney** and **Owen Hastings**.

68 – number of points from the 86 scored by Central in Tuesday's 86-75 win over Exeter that came from the trio of **Jaylen Leroy** (29), **Jon Makori** (24) and long-range bomber **Evan McDonald** (17). 🌩

Sports Glossary

Ha, cha, cha, cha, cha: Trademark phrase of gravelly voiced vaudeville performer and 1960s Ed Sullivan show fave with the protruding snout **Jimmy Durante**.

James Carville: Political operative who may soon be getting a call from the troubled **Hillary Clinton** campaign asking him to do for her what he did for the hubby as campaign manager when they won in 1992 and 1996 with the catch phrase "It's the economy, stupid" to keep slick Willie on message.

David Robinson: NBA all-timer whose son **Corey** was just elected to be student body president at Notre Dame without Carville's help to go along with his role as football team wideout.

1972-73 Boston Celtics: Went 68-14 to tie the 1966-67 Philadelphia 76ers league record for wins behind the MVP effort of **Dave Cowens**. More amazingly they were an astonishing 34-7 on the road in the days of four-games-in-five-nights road trips with 6 a.m. flights sitting in coach to the destination of that night's game. It all ended on a down note, as they lost to archrival New York in seven games despite outscoring them 106 to 101 per game aided by **John Havlicek** dislocating his right shoulder in Game 3, though he came back to somehow score 18 in Game 5 playing the whole game lefty.

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plan your summer FUN

From music and media to sports and science, New Hampshire has all kinds of camps to keep kids busy during summer vacation. Check out this guide to find the perfect one for your kids.



Academic enrichment

Breakthrough Manchester at the Derryfield School 2108 River Road, Manchester; 641-9426, breakthroughmanchester.org

What: Program designed to help high-potential middle school students with limited opportunities get on a path to college while also inspiring them to consider a career in education. **Who:** Sixth-grade students attending a Manchester middle school **When:** Wednesday, June 15, through Saturday, Aug. 6 **Cost:** Free

Mathnasium Summer Power Math Workout North Side Plaza, Bicentennial Drive, Manchester; 644-1234, mathnasium.com/northmanchester

What: Campers work on individualized math learning plans with qualified instructors, review previously learned concepts, prepare for upcoming fall math courses, play fun math games and earn prizes. **Who:** Grades 2 through 10 **When:** Cost covers 12 one-hour drop-in visits to use during June through August. **Cost:** \$399

Project SMART University of New Hampshire, 46 College Road, Durham, 862-3205, smart.unh.edu

What: A residential summer institute where students will study math and science

using resources at UNH. Topics include biotechnology and nanotechnology, space science, and marine and environmental science. Students who complete the program will earn four UNH credits. **Who:** Grades 10 and 11 **When:** Sunday, June 26, through Friday, July 22; weekend stay not mandatory **Cost:** \$3,200, \$3,700 including weekends

The Derryfield School Academic Programs 2108 River Road, Manchester; 641-9426, derryfield.org/summer

What: Program includes academic enrichment camps with themes like Shakespeare, geometry and the human brain; hands-on technology camps with themes like LEGO, forensics and engineering; and college preparation camps including college counseling, SAT prep and writing a college essay. **Who:** Grades K through 12 **When:** Dates/times vary. See website for details. **Cost:** Ranges from \$165 to \$875, depending on the camp

Art

Beck's Art Express 89 Amherst St., Nashua, 566-1393, artsexpressnh.com

What: A variety of themed art camps, including Pinterest Interest, Passion for Fashion, Canvas Paint Party and more. **Who:** Ages 5 through 16 **When:** Sessions run two days for ages 5 through 7, three days for ages

7+, various weekdays, 9 a.m. to noon, dates offered July 6 through Aug. 17

Cost: \$66 for two-day sessions, \$100 for three-day sessions

Currier Art Center 180 Pearl St., Manchester; 669-6144, ext. 122, currier.org

What: Campers choose from a variety of themed art camps, including Under the Sea, Over the Rainbow, It's a Jungle Out There, Around the World in 5 Days, Fractured Fairy Tales and more. **Who:** Ages 5 through 12 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon for ages 5 and 6, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. for ages 6 through 12, dates offered June 27 through Aug. 26 **Cost:** \$270/full-day week, \$160/half-day week

Fridge Art Camp The Refrigerator Door, 7 Chestnut Drive, Bedford, 781-8944, refrigeratordoor.org

What: Campers learn the elements of art including color, form, line, shape, space, texture and value, and create a piece for a gallery show at the end of the week. **Who:** Ages 4 through 12 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon, offered June 27 through July 1, and Aug. 15 through Aug. 19 **Cost:** \$170/week for members, \$190/week for non-members

Kimball Jenkins School of Art 266 N. Main St., Concord, 225-3932, kimballjenkins.com/summer-arts-camp

What: Campers create works of art with different media. Each session has a different theme, such as Animal Week, Comics and Manga, Studio Week and more. **Who:** Ages 6 through 13 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., dates offered July 5 through Aug. 12 **Cost:** \$235/week for members, \$255/week for non-members

NHIA Pre-College Summer Program New Hampshire Institute of Art, 148 Concord St., Manchester; 836-2561, nhia.edu/community-education/pre-college-program

What: Two-week residency program for high school students that includes college-level courses, field trips, faculty discussions and lectures by top artists. Campers will refine and expand their portfolios and can take part in mock interviews and portfolio reviews with faculty members, who will offer valuable feedback. Campers who complete the program are eligible to earn three college credits. **Who:** High school juniors and seniors ages 16+ **When:** Saturday, July 9, through Friday, July 22 **Cost:** Call for details.

Studio 550 Kids Art Camp Studio 550 Art Center, 550 Elm St., Manchester; 232-5597, 550arts.com

What: Camps for ages 7 through 12 include In The World of the Wild, where campers will use various media to explore plants and animals; and Travel the World

with Art, where campers will study different native cultures and art forms. For ages 10 through 15, there's Pottery, Book Arts, Drawing and More, where campers will learn pottery wheel throwing, drawing from real life and bookbinding methods. **Who:** Ages 7 through 15 **When:** Sessions run Wednesday to Sunday, full days are 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., half days are 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., or 1:30 to 4:30 p.m.; World of the Wild offered July 20 through July 24, Travel the World offered July 27 through July 31, Pottery/Book/Draw-ing offered Aug. 10 through Aug. 14 **Cost:** \$255/full-day week, \$155/half-day week, \$65/single full day, \$45/single half-day

Wild Summer Camps *Wild Salamander Creative Arts Center, 30 Ash St., Hollis, 465-9453, wildsalamander.com*

What: A variety of art camps with themes like Fashion Design, Tinker Studio, Enchanted Lands, Fiber Fun, Sculpt It, Printmaking and more. **Who:** Ages 3 through 10 **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, full days are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., half days are 9 a.m. to noon, or 1 to 4 p.m., dates offered June 27 through Aug. 5 **Cost:** \$150/half-day week, \$285/full-day week

Dance

Back 2 the Barre Camp *Londonderry Dance Academy, 21 Buttrick Road, Londonderry, 432-0032, londonderrydance.com*

What: Dance-intensive camp covers ballet, partnering, jazz, contemporary and body conditioning. **Who:** Ages 7 through 18 **When:** Monday, Aug. 22, through Thursday, Aug. 25, 8:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. **Cost:** \$130

Bedford Youth Performing Company *155 Route 101, Bedford, 472-3894, bypc.org*

What: Offers a variety of dance camps. **Who:** Preschool through grade 12 **When:** Varies. **Cost:** Varies depending on the camp. See website for details.

Capital City Dance Center *128 Hall St., Concord, 228-1012, capitalcitydancecenter.com*

What: Programs include Princess/Prince Camp (ages 4 through 6) and Rock the House Camp (ages 7 through 14). Campers will improve their technique and flexibility with tap, jazz, ballet, pom, lyrical and musical theater. **Who:** Ages 4 through 14 **When:** Monday, July 18, through Friday, July 22, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., half-day option available for ages 4 through 6. **Cost:** \$185/full-day week, \$125/half-day week

Concord Dance Academy *26 Commercial St., Concord, 226-0200, concorddanceacademy.com*

What: Camps teach a variety of dance styles, including tap, jazz, lyrical, hip-hop, ballet, tumbling and musical theater. Oth-

er activities include arts and crafts, nature walks, scavenger hunts and field trips. Mini Camp is a half-day program for kids ages 4 and 5. Recreational Camp (ages 5 through 10) teaches dance with an emphasis on physical exercise and includes recreational activities. Intensive Camp (ages 7 through 18) is for serious dancers looking to challenge themselves. **Who:** Ages 4 through 13 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (9 a.m. to noon for Mini Camp), dates offered July 18 through July 29 **Cost:** \$225/week, \$125/week for Mini Camp

Southern New Hampshire Dance Theater *19 Harvey Road, Bedford, 637-4398, snhdt.org*

What: Programs include Princess and Frozen theme camps (girls ages 3 through 5), the Young Dancers' Program (ages 6 through 12) for beginner and intermediate dancers, and a three-week Summer Intensive (ages 10+) for serious dancers looking to challenge themselves. **Who:** Ages 3+ **When:** Sessions run various days/weeks from Tuesday, June 21, through Saturday, Aug. 13 **Cost:** \$150 for Princess/Frozen camps, \$170 for Young Dancers; Intensive ranges from \$550 to \$1,150, depending on number of weeks.

General interest

Barbara C. Harris Episcopal Camp *108 Wally Stone Lane, Greenfield, 547-3400, bchcenter.org*

What: Traditional overnight camps (grades 4 through 9), day camp (grades K through 3) and family camp feature activities like archery, a climbing wall, canoeing, arts and crafts, swimming and games, as well as daily worship and Bible studies. High school overnight camps (grades 9 through 12) focus on building community and leadership. **Who:** Grades K and up **When:** Sessions run Sunday through Friday, day camps run 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., dates offered June 26 through July 29; family camp runs Friday, July 15, through Sunday, July 17. **Cost:** \$600/week for overnight camp, \$600 to \$1,320 for high school camps, \$210/week for day camp, and \$80 to \$210 for family camp

Boys & Girls Clubs of Central New Hampshire *Locations in Concord, Franklin, Hopkinton, Laconia, Suncook and Warner; 224-1061, centralnhclubs.org*

What: Centers offer general camps and speciality camps, including Kinder Camp, Sports Camp, Art Camp and Adventure Camp. All camps include field trips, games, arts and crafts, swimming and more. **Who:** Grades K to 8 **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, dates offered June 20 through Aug. 26 **Cost:** Ranges from \$95 to \$160 per week

Boys & Girls Club of Greater Nashua *1 Positive Place, Nashua; Camp Doucet,*

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What: Campers at Kids Club Summer Camp (ages 5 through 10) will participate in field trips, math and English classes, cooking, arts and crafts, science, dance, computers and cognitive art, and will have access to game tables, an outdoor playground and gym time. Activities at Camp Doucet (ages 6 through 13) include swimming, outdoor adventures, athletics, arts and crafts, field trips and more. **Who:** Ages 6 through 13; membership required. **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, 6:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. for Kids Club, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. for Doucet, dates offered June 27 through Aug. 26 **Cost:** \$125/week for Kids Club, Doucet is \$135/week for ages 6 and 7, \$100/week for ages 8 through 13

Boys & Girls Club of Manchester Camp Foster; 54 Camp Allen Road, Bedford; Union Street Clubhouse, 555 Union St., Manchester; 625-5031, begreatmanchester.org

What: Activities at Camp Foster (ages 7 through 13) include swimming, playground time, arts and crafts, field games, athletics, hiking, boating and canoeing. Campers at Kidz Kamp (ages 5 and 6) will participate in similar activities and attend Camp Foster each afternoon. **Who:** Ages 5 through 13; membership required (\$25). **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, dates offered June 13 through Aug. 26 **Cost:** Ranges from \$120 to \$130 per week

Camp Connect 555 Auburn St., Manchester, hosted by Easter Seals, 621-3437, eastersealsnh.org

What: Campers will learn social and communication skills, team-building and behavior management. **Who:** Children ages 5 to 17 affected by Autism Spectrum Disorder **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, dates offered June 17 through Aug. 19 **Cost:** \$350/week. Scholarships may be available.

Camp Kettleford 56 Camp Allen Road, Bedford, hosted by Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains, 627-4158, girlscoutsgwm.org

What: Set on 30 wooded acres on the shore of Sebbins Pond, this traditional day camp features swimming, boating, archery, cooking out, horseback riding, day trips and more. **Who:** Girls in grades K to 12 **When:** Camp runs Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 27 through Aug. 12. Overnights/extended stays available on Thursdays, July 7, July 21 and Aug. 4. **Cost:** Sessions start at \$164/week. Financial aid available for families who qualify.

Camp Lincoln 67 Ball Road, Kingston, 642-3361, ymcacamplincoln.org, hosted by Southern District YMCA, sdymca.org

What: Activities at the traditional day camps include swimming, sports, nature



Campers kayaking at Camp Bell. Courtesy photo.

exploration, arts and crafts, archery, boating, ropes courses, pottery and mountain biking. Campers at overnight adventure trips camp (ages 11 to 15) will spend five days and nights visiting beaches, mountains and urban areas. Specialty camps (grades 4 through 8) are offered for cooking, jewelry-making, fishing, golf and more. **Who:** Age 3 through grade 9 **When:** Sessions run various days/weeks from June through August. See website for details. **Cost:** Sessions start at \$215.

Camp Mowkawogan Camp Spaulding, 210 Bog Road, Concord, hosted by Concord Family YMCA, 290-7001, concordymca.org

What: Traditional camp with boating, swimming, science, music, sports, arts and crafts, nature awareness and more. **Who:** Grades 1 through 8 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., dates offered June 20 through Aug. 26 **Cost:** Ranges from \$110 to \$165, depending on number of days and camper's membership status.

Camp Ponemah Hampshire Hills Athletic Club, 50 Emerson Road, Milford, 673-7123, ext. 272, hampshirehills.com

What: Day camps feature a zip line, rock wall, playground, track, swimming, sports, crafts, field trips, games, performances and more. **Who:** Age 2 (potty-trained) through grade 10 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; sessions for ages 3 through 5 run Monday/Wednesday/Friday or Tuesday/Thursday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.; dates offered June 13 through Aug. 26 **Cost:** Varies, depending on camper's age, membership status and the session duration.

Camp Seawood 350 Banfield Road, Portsmouth, hosted by Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains, 627-4158, girlscoutsgwm.org

What: Set among pines, wetlands and wildlife, this traditional day camp features archery, cooking out, horseback riding, day trips, nature hikes and more. **Who:** Girls in grades K through 12 **When:** Sessions run

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered July 25 through Aug. 12; overnight/extended stay available Thursday, Aug. 4. **Cost:** Sessions start at \$205/week. Financial aid available for families who qualify.

Camp Souhegan Boys & Girls Club of Souhegan Valley, 56 Mont Vernon St., Milford, 672-1002, svbgc.org

What: Campers explore leadership, sports and recreation, education and career development, health and cultural arts through traditional camp activities. **Who:** Grades 1 through 12; membership required (\$35 annual fee) **When:** TBA **Cost:** Call for details.

Camp Whispering Pines 386 Meredith Neck Road, Meredith, hosted by Girl Scouts of the Green and White Mountains, 627-4158, girlscoutsgwm.org

What: Set on 110 acres of forest on the shores of Lake Winnepesaukee, this traditional day camp features swimming, boating, archery, cooking out, hiking, day trips and more. **Who:** Girls in grades K through 12 **When:** Monday, Aug. 1, to Friday, Aug. 12, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., overnights/extended stays available on Thursdays, Aug. 4 and Aug. 11. **Cost:** Sessions start at \$205/week. Financial aid available for families who qualify.

Children's Museum of New Hampshire 6 Washington St., Dover, 742-2002, childrens-museum.org

What: Mini-camps are three-day camps for ages 4 and 5 and include hands-on activities, crafts, stories, snacks and exclusive time interacting with museum exhibits. Discovery Camps are five-day camps for ages 6 through 12, where campers explore art, science and other topics through hands-on activities. See website for this year's themes. **Who:** Ages 4 through 12 **When:** Mini-Camps run Tuesday through Thursday, 9:15 a.m. to noon; Discovery Camps run Monday through Friday, 9:15 a.m. to 1 p.m.; dates offered July 25 through Aug. 26. **Cost:** Ranges from \$85 to \$190, depending on the camp and camper's membership status.

Concord Parks and Recreation New Heights Community Center, 14 Canterbury Road, Concord, 225-8690, concordnh.gov

What: Traditional day camps featuring arts and crafts, swimming, games and more are Kids Camp (grades 1 and 2) and Rec Camp (grades 3 through 5). Rec Camp also includes occasional field trips. Campers at Adventure Camp (grades 6 through 8) will go on four-day trips to beaches, theme parks, hiking and kayaking destinations and more. Specialty camps for various sports, cooking, farming, LEGO and video are also offered.

Who: Ages 2 through 16 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., dates offered June 20 through Aug. 12 **Cost:** \$136/week for Kids Camp, \$141/week for Rec Camp, \$164 for Adventure Camp. See website for specialty camp rates.

Eagle Camp & Challenger Series Portsmouth Christian Academy, 20 Seaborne Drive, Dover, 742-3617, pcaschool.org

What: PCA camps focus on helping campers reach their intellectual, artistic, physical and spiritual potential. Eagle Camp (Preschool to grade 8) is a traditional day camp with themes like Wild West, Christmas in July, Top Chef and more. The Challenger Series offers a variety of specialty camps for music, academic and sports. **Who:** Preschool and up **When:** Eagle Camp sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (half-day option available), dates offered June 13 through Aug. 12; See website for dates/times of Challenger Series. **Cost:** \$180/week or \$40/day for Eagle Camp; see website for Challenger Series rates.

IMAGINE Camps New Morning Schools, 23 Back River Road, Bedford, 669-3591, newmorningschools.com

What: Camps include arts and crafts, games, exercise and academics. **Who:** Ages 3 through 12 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., dates offered June 13 through Aug. 26. **Cost:** \$200/week

Manchester Fun in the Sun JFK Memorial Coliseum, Livingston Park (Dorris Pond House), and Piscataquog River Park, hosted by Manchester Parks & Recreation, 665-6817, Manchester.nh.gov/Departments/Parks-and-Recreation/Programs/Youth-Programs

What: Day camp includes playground activities, arts and crafts, swimming, local field trips, sports and special event days. **Who:** Manchester residents ages 6 through 12 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., dates TBD **Cost:** Free

Melody Pines Day Camp 510 Corning Road, Manchester, 669-9414, melodypines.com

What: Traditional day camp with activities like swimming, boating, waterskiing,

chess, arts and crafts, frisbee golf, treasure hunts and more. **Who:** Ages 5 through 13 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, dates offered June 13 through Aug. 26. **Cost:** \$210 per week

Nashua Parks and Recreation *Various Nashua locations, 589-3360, nashuanh.gov/534/Summer-Camps*

What: Camps for art, cooking, cheerleading, field hockey, soccer, football, baseball, swimming, track and field, volleyball and tennis. **Who:** Ages 5 through 16 **When:** Various dates/times from June through August. See website. **Cost:** Varies depending on the camp. See website.

Naticook Summer Day Camp *Wasserman Park, 116 Naticook Road, Merrimack, hosted by Merrimack Parks & Recreation, 882-1046, merrimackparksandrec.org/naticook.html*

What: Campers enjoy swimming, boating, drama, group games, archery, nature exploration, sports, arts and crafts, special events and more. **Who:** Ages 5 through 14 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 27 through Aug. 19. **Cost:** \$200/week for residents, \$250/week for non-residents

New Hampshire SPCA
New Hampshire Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Learning Center, 104 Portsmouth Ave., Stratham, 772-2921, nhspca.org

What: Campers will interact with animals and participate in service projects, crafts, games and more. **Who:** Ages 6 through 15 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (half days for ages 6 through 8 are 9 a.m. to noon, or 1 to 4 p.m.), offered various weeks from June 27 through Aug. 22 **Cost:** Ranges from \$175 to \$275.

Pelham Parks & Recreation *Pelham Veterans Memorial Park; Elmer G. Raymond Memorial Park Lodge, 35 Keyes Hill Road, Pelham, 635-2721, pelhamweb.com/recreation*

What: Summer Camp (ages 6 through 14, Veterans Park) and Tots Summer Playground Camp (ages 3 through 5, Raymond Park) feature activities like nature walks, arts and crafts, games, treasure hunts, mock Olympics, water play, field trips, mountain biking, kayaking and swimming. **Who:** Ages 3 through 14 **When:** Summer Camp sessions run Monday through Friday, 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.; Tots Camp runs Tuesday/Thursday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.; dates offered July 5 through Aug. 12; **Cost:** Ranges from \$165 to \$475, depending on camper's age, residency and the session duration

Strawbery Banke Museum Camps *14 Hancock St., Portsmouth, 422-7541, strawberybanke.org*

What: Campers will explore the 14-acre outdoor history museum and participate in activities led by professional crafters, archaeologists, character role-players, curators and historians. See website for list of themes. **Who:** Ages 6 through 16 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (9 a.m. to noon for ages 6 through 8), offered various weeks from June 27 through Aug. 19. **Cost:** Ranges from \$150 to \$600, depending on the camp and camper's membership status

Summer Quest at World Academy *138 Spit Brook Road, Nashua, 888-1982, worldacademynh.com*

What: Programs intended to nurture a child's wonder by encouraging creativity, imagination and exploration. **Who:** Infants through grade 6 **When:** Two-week sessions run Monday through Friday, dates offered June 20 through Aug. 26 **Cost:** Varies depending on hours/days attended. Call for details.

UNH Youth Programs and Camps *University of New Hampshire, Thompson Hall, 105 Main St., Durham, 862-7227, unh.edu/youth-programs/programs/summer*

What: Over 30 programs offered for academic enrichment, creative arts, athletics, STEM and traditional camp recreation. See website for a full list. **Who:** Grades 1 through 12 **When:** Various dates/times from June through August **Cost:** Varies

YMCA Allard Center of Goffstown *Branch of The Granite YMCA, 116 Goffstown Back Road, Goffstown, 497-4663, granitemymca.org/daycamp*

What: Camp Halfmoon (grades K through 10) and Camp Quartermoon (pre-K and K) feature activities like archery, swimming, creative arts, sports and field trips to state parks and beaches. In Adventure Camp (grades 5 through 11), campers will participate in outdoor activities like hiking, mountain biking, rock climbing and more. In Discovery Camp (grades 1 through 5), campers will care for a garden, do STEM activities and go on field trips to state parks. At Teen Road Trip Camp (grades 6 through 10), campers will travel to fun attractions around northern New England. There are also gymnastics camps (grades pre-K through 9) and tennis camps (grades pre-K through 12). **Who:** Pre-K through grade 12 **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, offered various dates from June 13 through Aug. 26 **Cost:** Varies. Call for details.

YMCA of Downtown Manchester *Branch of The Granite YMCA, 30 Mechanic St., Manchester, 623-3558, granitemymca.org/daycamp*

What: Sports camps include Track and Field, Sports of All Sorts, Celtics Basketball, NFL Flag Football and Ultimate Sports

Fan Trip Camp. Culinary camps include Junior Chefs, Cooking Across the Globe and Dessert of the Day. Other camps include Jewelry Making, Discovering the Arts and Camp Namoskeag. At Teen Road Trip Camp (grades 6 through 10), campers will travel to fun attractions around northern New England. **Who:** Grades K through 12 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 13 through Aug. 26. **Cost:** Varies. Call for details.

YMCA of Greater Londonderry Branch *of The Granite YMCA, 206 Rockingham Road, Londonderry, 437-9622, granitemymca.org/daycamp*

What: Camp Pa-Gon-Ki is a traditional day camp featuring creative arts, fort-building, archery, swimming, sports, theater, nature and adventure. Camps for teens include a trip camp, where campers will travel to fun attractions around New England, and a leadership development program. There will also be half-day skill development specialty camps (grades 1 through 5) including Flag Football, Lacrosse, FIT Camp, and Multi-sports offered at Griffin Park in Windham. **Who:** Grades K through 8 **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, dates offered June 13 through Aug. 26 **Cost:** Varies. Call for details.

YMCA of Greater Nashua *Nashua YMCA Branch, 24 Stadium Drive, Nashua, 882-2011; Merrimack YMCA Branch, 6 Henry Clay Drive, Merrimack, 881-7778; Camp Sargent, 141 Camp Sargent Road, Merrimack, 880-4845; nmymca.org*

What: Camp Sargent (ages 5 to 16) is held on Lake Naticook and includes a traditional day camp and a variety of specialty camps. The Merrimack Branch day camps include Young Explorers (age 3 through grade K), a creative arts camp called Camp Create (grades 1 through 6), and specialty sports camps (grades 1 through 6). The Nashua Branch day camps include Little Investigators (ages 3 through 5), Camp Create (ages 3 through 5, grades 6 through 12), The Quest teen camp (ages 12 through 16), and The



Campers horseback riding at Camp Lovewell. Courtesy photo.

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vides leadership camp (grades 9 and 10).
Who: Ages 3+ **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (9 a.m. to 1 p.m. for ages 3 through 5), dates offered June 13 through Sept. 2 **Cost:** Varies. See website.

YMCA of the Seacoast Branch of The Granite YMCA, 550 Peverly Hill Road, Portsmouth, 431-2334, graniteymca.org/daycamp

What: Camp Gundalow features nature exploration, swimming, a ropes course, sports, creative arts, dancing, fort-building, team-building activities, archery and more. There is a modified Camp Gundalow program for kids ages 3 and 4, with full-day and half-day options. Speciality camps include Arts and Crafts, Junior Chefs, Fort Building, Magic: The Gathering, Sports, LEGO and Dance.
Who: Grades K through 9 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, dates offered June 13 through Aug. 26 **Cost:** Varies. Call for details.

YMCA of Strafford County Branch of The Granite YMCA, 35 Industrial Way, Rochester; Camp Coney Pine, 49 Lowell St., Rochester; 332-7334, graniteymca.org/daycamp

What: Camp Coney Pine includes archery, creative arts, dance, group games, a ropes course, swimming, sports, fort building and more. Camp Cocheco includes sports, creative arts, games, STEM activities, dance, and field trips to Camp Coney Pine for swimming, the ropes course and more outdoor fun. **Who:** Grades K through 8 **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, dates offered June 20 through Aug. 26 **Cost:** Varies. Call for details.

Media & Writing

Londonderry Access Center Media Camps 281 Mammoth Road, Londonderry, 432-1100, lactv.com

What: At Beginner Media Camp (grades 5 through 8), campers will learn all aspects of video production, produce their own TV shows, and have a screening for friends and families at the end of the session. Advanced Media Camp (grades 6 through 9) is for those who have previously attended the beginner camp or another training program at the Access Center, to build on their skills by directing and producing a TV show. **Who:** Grades 5 through 9 **When:** Beginner camp runs Monday, July 18, through Friday, July 29, 10 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.; Advanced camp runs Monday, Aug. 8, through Friday, Aug. 12, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. **Cost:** \$50 for Beginner, \$55 for Advanced

National Writing Project in New Hampshire Camps for Young Writers Locations in Plymouth, Laconia, Meredith, and Concord, NWPNHwritingcamp@gmail.com, plymouth.edu/outreach/mwpmh/writing-camps

What: Campers will develop their writing through craft lessons, prompts and other exercises. Guest speakers, author visits, museum trips, art projects and theater workshops may be included. Sessions conclude with a showcase of the campers' writing for family and friends. A residential camp for high school students is offered on the Plymouth State University campus. **Who:** Grades 3 through 12 **When:** Sessions run various dates in July and August **Cost:** \$125 for half-day camps, \$250 for full-day camps; residential camp ranges from \$550 to \$1,100 depending on the duration

Music

Concord Community Music School 23 Wall St., Concord, 228-1196, ccmusicschool.org

What: Campers at Creative Arts Camp (grades 1 through 6) will engage in music, movement, visual art activities, and indoor and outdoor games. Summer Jam Camp (instrumentalists ages 10+) features a variety of workshops, including performance skills, recording technique, improvisation and ensemble playing, as well as instrumental classes for percussion, winds, guitar, piano and bass. **Who:** Grades 1+ **When:** Creative Arts sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., offered July 18 through July 22, and July 25 through July 29; Jam Camp dates and times TBA **Cost:** Creative Arts is \$235, \$260 after May 15; Jam Camp rates TBA.

Lake Winni Music Camp Geneva Point Center Campground, Lake Winnepesaukee, Moultonborough, 284-6550, nhisom.org/camp

What: Overnight music and recreational camp for beginner to advanced musicians offers instruction in classical, jazz, pop, rock, folk and vocal music in a non-competitive

environment. Campers also enjoy kayaking, swimming and outdoor games. **Who:** Ages 10 through 18 **When:** Sessions run Sunday through Saturday, offered July 24 through July 30, or Aug. 7 through Aug. 13 **Cost:** \$725

Manchester Community Music School 2291 Elm St., Manchester, 644-4548, mcmusicschool.org

What: At Beginning Maestros camp (ages 3 through 7), campers attend with their parents and learn early music development skills through the Suzuki method. At Suzuki Camp, kids who have completed at least one year of instrument study participate in activities and exercises to build on their musicianship. Jazz Camp (grades 6 through 10) helps campers build jazz techniques and styles with a focus on improvisation and ensemble playing. **Who:** Pre-K through grade 10 **When:** Jazz Camp runs Monday, July 11, through Friday, July 15, 9 a.m. to noon; dates and times for other camps TBD **Cost:** Ranges from \$125 to \$235, depending on the camp

Nashua Community Music School Nashua Millyard, 5 Pine St. Ext., Nashua, 881-7030, nashuacms.org

What: Programs include a three-day Flute Academy (ages 11 through 16), Broadway Week musical theater camp (ages 8 through 12), Intro to Piano & Percussion (ages 6 through 11), Music Around the World multicultural music camp (ages 3 through 12), Young Composers music composition camp (ages 9 through 13), and Strings Week for Guitar/Ukulele and Violin (ages 8 through 15). **Who:** Ages 3 through 16 **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, various times, dates offered July 6 through Aug. 12 **Cost:** Ranges from \$140 to \$220, depending on the camp

Walden School Young Musicians Program Dublin School, 18 Lehmann Way,

Dublin, 415-648-4710, waldenschool.org/young-musicians-program

What: Five-week residency camp where campers will take part in musicianship and composition classes, composer forums, The Walden School Chorus, dances, swim trips, mountain hikes and open-mike nights. A three-week option is available for ages 9 through 11. **Who:** Ages 9 through 18 **When:** Saturday, July 2, through Sunday, Aug. 7 **Cost:** \$7,650 plus \$50 application fee. Financial aid available for families who qualify.

Nature

Beaver Brook Nature Camps 117 Ridge Road, Hollis, 465-7787, beaverbrook.org

What: Campers will participate in indoor and outdoor activities that foster an appreciation for the natural world. Themes this year include Forest Forts, Abenaki Footsteps, Art & Nature, Campfire Cuisine, Nature Detectives and more. **Who:** Pre-school through grade 10 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, dates offered June 20 through Aug. 19 **Cost:** Ranges from \$200 to \$400, depending on the camp

Camp Lovewell The Nature of Things, 10 Groton Road, Nashua, 881-4815, camplovewell.com

What: Campers will enjoy hiking, field games and sports, swimming, skits and songs, kayaking, arts and crafts, a ropes course and more. A horseback riding package is also available. **Who:** Ages 5 through 14 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, dates offered June 27 through Aug. 26 **Cost:** Ranges from \$150 to \$275 per week, depending on camper's age

Educational Farm Camp Educational Farm at Joppa Hill, 174 Joppa Hill Road, Bedford, 472-4724, theeducationalfarm.org

What: Campers will learn about animals, check for eggs, work in the garden, go for nature walks and help with farm chores. **Who:** Ages 4 through 11 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, half days for ages 4 and 5, full days for ages 6 through 11, dates offered June 27 through Aug. 19 **Cost:** \$130/half-day week, \$240/full-day week

New Hampshire Audubon Nature Day Camps McLane Center, 84 Silk Farm Road, Concord; Massabesic Center, 26 Audubon Way, Auburn; 224-9909, nhaudubon.org

What: Programs include a half-day Wonders Camp for ages 4 and 5; Discovery Camp (ages 6 through 9), featuring hikes, crafts, storytelling, games and live animal presentations; Explorers Camp (ages 10 through 12), which includes field trips, hiking, swimming and conservation projects; and Leaders-in-Training (ages 13 through 15) for teens interested in building leadership skills and becoming camp counsellors in the



Campers hold sea urchins at the Seacoast Science Center summer camp. Courtesy photo.

ture. **Who:** Ages 4 through 15 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (9 a.m. to noon for Wonders Camp), dates offered June 20 through Aug. 12. **Cost:** Ranges from \$120 to \$315, depending on the camp and camper's membership status

New Hampshire Boat Museum Camps

399 Center St., Wolfeboro Falls, 569-4554, nhbm.org

What: At Youth Boat Building Camp (ages 12+), campers can build their own canoe, kayak or Bevin's Skiff using hand and small power tools. Camp culminates with a special launching on Lake Wentworth. Lake Discovery Camp (grades K through 6) is a hands-on adventure camp that involves boating, science, water ecology, aquatic life, local history and arts and crafts. **Who:** Grades K and up **When:** Boat Building session runs Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Aug. 1 through Aug. 12; Discovery sessions are held Monday, July 18, and Tuesday, July 19, for grades K through 2, and Wednesday, July 20, through Friday, July 22, for grades 3 through 6, from 9 a.m. to noon. **Cost:** Boat Building ranges from \$775 to \$1,215, depending on the boat type chosen. Discovery is \$15/day for members, \$18/day for non-members

Squam Lakes Natural Science Center

534 Route 3, Holderness, 968-7194, nhnature.org

What: Campers at Junior Day Camp will participate in hiking, camping, canoeing, kayaking and nature exploration. Also offered is the Community Youth Sailing Program, a half-day instructional camp with options for beginner and advanced sailors. **Who:** Grades 3 through 12 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, dates offered June 27 through Aug. 11. Junior Day Camp has an overnight option on Thursdays. **Cost:** Day Camp ranges from \$325 to \$375; Sailing Program ranges from \$285 to \$400.

WildQuest Camp Prescott Farm Environmental Education Center

928 White Oaks Road, Laconia, 366-5695, prescottfarm.org

What: Campers will participate in nature activities, animal and plant identification, arts and crafts, quests, games and hands-on learning. **Who:** Ages 4 through 15 **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, dates offered June 20 through Aug. 19 **Cost:** Ranges from \$85.50 to \$220, depending on the camp and camper's membership status

Science

Brainwave Summer Camp The Nature of Things

10 Groton Road, Nashua, 881-4815, enrich2day.com

What: A variety of STEAM day camps

with themes such as computer programming, LEGO robotics, Minecraft, stop-motion animation, stock market simulations and live-action role-playing. **Who:** Ages 5 through 14 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, dates offered June 20 through Aug. 26 **Cost:** \$350

Camp Invention Locations in Bedford, Merrimack, Penacook and Amherst

(more may be announced), 800-968-4332, campinvention.org

What: Program features collaborative learning opportunities led by local educators. This year's theme is "Epic." Campers can choose a camp where they make their own robotic cricket, design and operate their own virtual park, invent things at a maker studio or test experiments in a lab. **Who:** Grades 1 through 6 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, beginning June 20 **Cost:** Ranges from \$220 to \$250, depending on the camp location

Camps at Manchester Community College

1066 Front St., Manchester, 206-8161, manchestercc.edu

What: A variety of science and technology camps. Camps for grades 6 through 8 include STEM, Robotics, Girl's Career Camp, and "Nuts, Bolts and Thingamajigs." Camps for ages 9 through 12 include Video Game Animation, Minecraft Designers, App Attack!, Minecraft Modders, LEGO Games

and Minecraft Animators. **Who:** Grades 6 through 8/ages 9 through 12 **When:** Sessions for grades 6 through 8 run Monday through Thursday, 8:45 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., dates offered July 11 through Aug. 4; sessions for ages 9 through 12 run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to noon, or 1 to 4 p.m., dates offered July 11 through July 29 **Cost:** \$150, \$115 before June 15

iD Tech Program Southern New Hampshire University

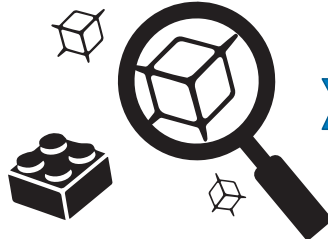
2500 N. River Road, Manchester; Dartmouth College, 10 N. Main St., Hanover, 888-709-8324, idtech.com

What: Campers will learn to code, design video games, mod Minecraft, engineer robots, model 3-D characters, build websites, print 3-D models and more. **Who:** Ages 6 through 18; a girls-only camp for ages 10 through 15 is also offered. **When:** Dates/times vary. Both day and overnight options available. See website for details. **Cost:** Call for details.

LEtGO Your Mind STEM Programs

Various NH locations, 731-8047, letgoyourmind.com

What: Campers explore STEM subjects through activities with LEGO bricks, motors, simple machine elements, robotics, stop-motion animation and programming Minecraft. This year's theme is "Space Exploration." **Who:** Ages 4 through 17 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Fri-



ART CAMP

Express creativity with paints, collage materials, 3D art, and experiment with unique art media.

- July 11-15 from 8:30am-4:30pm
- July 18-22 from 8:30am-4:30pm

CAMP CONSTRUCT

Build with different materials ranging from Legos and Kinnex to real wood.

- July 25-29 from 8:30am-4:30pm

SCIENCE CAMP

Explore science topics like geology, meteorology, astronomy, biology and chemistry.

- Aug. 1-5 from 8:30am-4:30pm
- Aug. 8-12 from 8:30am-4:30pm

WORLD CAMP

Learn and participate in customs from around the world! Try new foods, hear music, create flags, etc.

- Aug. 15-19 from 8:30am-4:30pm

SUMMER CAMPS

For kids entering 1st - 4th grades.

COST: \$180/Week*

Mon. - Fri. from 8:30am to 4:30pm

*plus a one-time \$10 camper registration fee.

For more information, contact
Debbie Booker at (603) 206-8098
or email dbooker@ccsnh.edu

Manchester Community College
1066 Front Street, Manchester, NH 03102

REGISTER YOUR CHILD TODAY!
mccnh.edu/summer-camps

Use dates offered June 20 through Aug. 19
Cost: \$310/week

McAuliffe-Shepard Discovery Center
2 Institute Drive, Concord, 217-7827, starshop.com

What: Campers will learn about astronomy, aviation and Earth science through hands-on activities and adventures. This year's seven themes are TBA. **Who:** TBA
When: Sessions run Monday to Friday, 9 a.m., dates TBA **Cost:** Call for details.

Seacoast Science Center 570 Ocean Blvd., Rye, 436-8043, ext. 16, seacoast-sciencecenter.org

What: In Treks for Tots (ages 3 through 5) and Seaside Safari (grades K through 5), campers will explore the seven different habitats in Odiorne Point State Park as well as the live animal and hands-on exhibits in the center to develop a greater understanding and appreciation of the natural world. Safari Stewards (grades 6 through 8) is a field trip program. Each session has a different theme. See website. **Who:** Pre-K through grade 8
When: Sessions for Treks and Seaside Safari run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (half-day option available for Treks), dates offered June 20 through Aug. 26. First and last weeks have a single-day option; dates for Safari Stewards vary. **Cost:** \$290/week for members, \$320/week for non-members

SEE Science Center 200 Bedford St., Manchester; 669-0400, see-sciencecenter.org

What: Campers at Camp Summer Science (grades 3 through 6) will explore four topics, including Brain Games, Slimy Science, Reverse Engineering and If I Ran the Science Center, through hands-on activities. Campers in the Stop-Motion Animation Mini-Course (ages 8 through 12) will create an "Invention and Discovery" stop-motion animation film using LEGO bricks and mini figures. At the FIRST PLACE Invention Challenge Camp (ages 9 through 14), campers will design, build and program autonomous robots using LEGO, and try out the new challenge for the 2016-2017 FIRST LEGO League season. **Who:** Ages 8 through 14 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday. Camp Summer Science offered July 18 through July 29; Stop-Motion Animation offered Aug. 1 through Aug. 5; FIRST PLACE offered Aug. 8 through Aug. 19 **Cost:** Ranges from \$200 to \$300, depending on camp and time of registration

Sleepaway Camps

Camp Allen 56 Camp Allen Road, Bedford, 622-8471, campallennh.org

What: Activities include nature exploration, creative arts, games, sports, music and more. Residential and day camp options available. **Who:** Campers of all ages with



Campers work on a robotics project at an iD Tech Summer Program. Courtesy photo.

cognitive and/or physical challenges **When:** Sessions run various days and durations from Sunday, June 5, through Sunday, Aug. 21 **Cost:** Ranges from \$320 to \$1,800 depending on the session type

Camp Bell/Hidden Valley Scout Camp
Griswold Scout Reservation, Places Mill Road and Griswold Lane, Gilmanton Iron Works, hosted by Daniel Webster Council, Boy Scouts of America, 625-6431, nhscouting.org

What: Hidden Valley features shooting sports, STEM activities, welding, ecology, Scoutcraft/survival skills and more. Camp Bell features ATVs, horseback riding, ropes courses, paddleboards, motor boating and more. **Who:** Boys ages 11 through 20 and girls ages 14 through 20 **When:** Sessions run Sunday through Saturday, dates offered June 26 through Aug. 20 **Cost:** \$380/week

Camp Birch Hill 333C Birch Hill Road, New Durham, 859-4525, campbirchhill.com

What: Campers choose their own schedule from more than 50 activities, including sports, boating, arts and crafts, ziplining, rock-climbing, ropes courses and more. **Who:** Ages 6 to 16 **When:** Two-, four- and six-week sessions run various days/weeks from Sunday, June 26, through Saturday, Aug. 6. **Cost:** Call for details.

Camp Carpenter 300 Blondin Road, Manchester; hosted by Daniel Webster Council, Boy Scouts of America, 625-6431, nhscouting.org

What: Campers will enjoy shooting sports, field sports, nature, theme-activities, STEM projects, aquatics, Pirates Cove, Fort Friendship and putt putt golf. Overnight and day options available. Day camps also available in Nashua, Rochester and Seacoast areas. See website for details. **Who:** Boys ages 7 through 10 **When:** Sessions offered from Sunday, June 26, through Thursday, Aug. 11 **Cost:** Ranges from \$185 to \$310,

depending on the session type

Camp Fully Involved New Hampshire State Fire Academy, 22 Sheep Davis Road, Concord, info@campfullyinvolved.com, campfullyinvolved.com

What: Camp for girls considering a career in firefighting or emergency medical services. Curriculum provides a comprehensive overview of the firefighting profession through hands-on drills and activities. Please note that this camp is very intense and physically demanding. **Who:** Girls ages 14 through 20 **When:** Sunday, July 17, through Friday, July 22 **Cost:** \$350

Camp Gottalikeachallenge Brewster Academy, 80 Academy Drive, Wolfeboro, 868-2140, nh-di.org/programs/camp

What: A fast-paced adventure in problem-solving, hands-on learning and challenging activities. Campers will develop their creativity, critical thinking, leadership, confidence and teamwork. **Who:** Ages 10 through 14 **When:** Sessions run Sunday through Friday, offered July 31 through Aug. 5, and Aug. 7 through Aug. 12 **Cost:** \$675, \$750 after May 1

Camp Mi-Te-Na/Camp Foss Camp Mi-Te-Na, 65 YMCA Road, Alton, 776-3000; Camp Foss, 242 Willey Pond Road, Strafford, 269-3800; hosted by the Granite YMCA, 232-8642, graniteymca.org

What: Campers enjoy a traditional camp experience with arts and crafts, archery, various sports, swimming, white-water rafting, ropes courses and more. **Who:** Ages 8 through 15; Camp Mi-Te-Na is for boys, Camp Foss is for girls. **When:** One- and two-week sessions offered from Sunday, June 26, through Saturday, Aug. 20 **Cost:** \$820 for one week, \$1,495 for two weeks; some activities have additional fees

Camp Sno Mo Hidden Valley Reservation, 260 Griswold Lane, Gilmanton Iron

Works, hosted by Easter Seals, 364-5818, eastersealsnh.org

What: Campers participate in aquatics, a ropes course, shooting sports, arts and crafts, fishing, hiking, ecology and more. **Who:** Children and young adults ages 11 through 21 with disabilities and special needs **When:** Sessions run Sunday to Friday, dates offered June 26 through Aug. 19. **Cost:** \$800, \$950 if a one-on-one aide is needed

Camp Spaulding 210 Bog Road, Penacook, ymcampsaulding.org, hosted by YMCA of Greater Nashua, 882-2011, nymymca.org

What: A traditional camp with activities like creative arts, horseback riding, wood-working, swimming, boating, archery, ropes courses and more. **Who:** Ages 7 through 15 **When:** "Rite of Passage" camp (ages 7 through 10) sessions run one week, Sunday through Saturday, dates offered June 26 through July 9; traditional camp (ages 8 through 15) sessions run two weeks, Sunday through Saturday, dates offered June 26 through Aug. 20 **Cost:** \$800 for Rite of Passage, \$1,300 for traditional camp

Cohen Camps Camp Tel Noar, 167 Main St., Hampstead, 329-6931, camptelnoar.org; Camp Tevya, 1 Mason Road, Brookline, 673-4010, camptevyva.org; cohenamps.org

What: Jewish educational and cultural camps where campers will enjoy swimming, boating, outdoor learning, athletics, arts and crafts, plus shira (singing) and rikud (Israeli dancing). **Who:** Grades 3 through 10 **When:** Session dates offered Wednesday, June 29, through Wednesday, Aug. 17 **Cost:** Ranges from \$900 to \$8,700. See website for details.

Water Monkey Camp 298 Merrymeeting Road, New Durham, 617-855-9253, watermonkeycamp.com

What: Campers will enjoy wakeboarding, waterskiing, wakesurfing and wakeskating on Merrymeeting Lake. **Who:** Ages 10 through 17 **When:** Sessions run Sunday through Saturday, dates offered June 19 through Aug. 13 **Cost:** \$1,800/week, \$1,500 for each additional week

Sports

"Be the Champ" Boxing Camp Bare Knuckle Murphy's Boxing Gymnasium, 163 Lake Ave., Manchester; 623-6066, bareknucklemurphy.com

What: Campers will learn offensive and defensive boxing skills as well as fundamentals that can be applied to all sports. Fitness and nutrition topics will also be covered. **Who:** Age 6 through teens of all ability/fitness levels **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., offered July 11 through July 22. August sessions may be added depending on interest. **Cost:** \$350/week, \$395 after May 31.

Caramba Skills Camp Locations in Ray-
mond, Concord, Nashua, Chichester and
Atkinson, 496-3579, soccerskillscamp.org

What: Soccer program specializes in skill development for goaltenders, defenders, midfielders and strikers. Players are divided by age for the first half of the day, then by ability level for the second half. A high school preseason camp is also offered. **Who:** Grades 1 through 8 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. (half-day option available), dates offered July 11 through Aug. 11 **Cost:** \$210/week

Challenger Sports Soccer Camps
Various NH locations, 401-864-8880, challengersports.com

What: Campers will develop core soccer skills and understanding of the game as well as sportsmanship and leadership skills. Programs include British Soccer Camp and TetraBrazil Camp. **Who:** All ages **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, dates offered June 29 through Aug. 26 **Cost:** Ranges from \$55 to \$250, depending on the camp

Fisher Cats Baseball Camps Northeast
Delta Dental Stadium, 1 Line Drive, Manchester, 641-2005, nhfishercats.com

What: New Hampshire Fisher Cats players and coaches will teach campers the fundamentals of the game, including throwing, fielding, hitting and pitching. Separate softball instruction will be provided as well. Sessions end with a camper-vs.-camper game and autograph session with instructors. **Who:** Ages 6 through 15 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to noon, offered June 27 through July 1, July 18 through July 22, Aug. 1 through Aug. 5, and Aug. 15 through Aug. 19 **Cost:** \$125/week. Includes T-shirt and tickets to a Fisher Cats game.

Foster's Golf Camp Derryfield Park, 581
Bridge St., Manchester, 622-1553, fostersgolfcamp.com

What: Campers travel to different par-3 courses and participate in practice clinics, chipping and putting contests, time on the driving range and at least nine holes of golf with instruction. Trophies and certificates are awarded at the end of the session. **Who:** Ages 8 through 16 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 13 through Aug. 26 **Cost:** \$295/week

Gelinas Farm Horse Camp 471 4th
Range Road, Pembroke, 225-7024, gelinasfarm.com

What: Each camper is assigned a horse for the day. Activities include preparing the barns for the horses, grooming, tacking and riding, with the help of instructors. Campers will also learn about horse health, barn management and safety. **Who:** Ages 8 through 12 **When:** Monday, Aug. 15, through Friday, Aug. 19, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. **Cost:** \$350

Go Ninja Camp Bare Knuckle Murphy's
Boxing Gymnasium, 163 Lake Ave., Manchester, 623-6066, goninja.us

What: Go Ninja campers will explore the worlds of aerial arts, circus arts and martial arts while focusing on their areas of interest. **Who:** Ages 6 through 16 of all ability/fitness levels **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered July 11 through July 22. August sessions may be added depending on interest. **Cost:** \$350/week, \$395 after May 31.

Granite State Gymnastics 301 River
Road, Bow, 228-8424; 35 Londonderry
Turnpike, Hooksett, 935-9816; granitestategymnastics.com

What: Programs include Gym & Swim Camp, UNH Gymnast camp and clinics for parkour/ninja, cheer, trampoline and tumble. **Who:** Ages 3+ **When:** Sessions run various weekdays, half- and full-days, dates offered Monday, June 27, through Friday, Aug. 26 **Cost:** Ranges from \$150 to \$240 depending on the session

Hampshire Hills Sports Camps Hampshire
Hills Athletic Club, 50 Emerson Road, Milford, 673-7123, ext. 272, hampshirehills.com

What: Weeklong, half-day specialty sports camps instructed by certified professionals help campers improve their skills in a variety of sports. **Who:** Ages 3+ **When:** Camps and dates TBA on Hampshire Hills website in March. **Cost:** Camps start around \$80.

In the Net Sports Academy Various NH
locations, 429-0592, inthenetsportsacademy.com

What: A variety of sports camps, including soccer, Sk8, football, running, field hockey, golf, tennis and lacrosse. **Who:** Ages 3 through high school **When:** Sessions run Monday to Friday, with half-day, full-day, evening and overnight options, dates offered Monday, June 27, through Friday, Aug. 19 **Cost:** Call for details.

Junior Fitness Camp Executive Health
and Sports Center, 1 Executive Way, Manchester, 668-4753, ext. 203, ehsc.com

What: Campers receive instruction in tennis, golf and basketball and will take classes in yoga, Zumba and healthy eating. They also participate in group exercise classes, arts and crafts, team games and swimming. **Who:** Ages 5 through 13 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 27 through Aug. 19 **Cost:** Call for details.

New England Gymnastics Training
Center Gym & Swim Camps 5 Tracy Lane,
Hudson, 880-8482, negtc.com

What: Campers will learn the basics of gymnastics and take part in arts and crafts, swimming, basketball and other theme week activities. **Who:** Ages 4+ **When:** Sessions offered by week, day or half-day, Mon-



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SUMMER PROGRAMS for students entering grades 1-12



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Derryfield Repertory Theatre and many more!



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The Derryfield School is a coed, independent, college-preparatory day school
in Manchester, NH, for students in grades 6-12.

Nike Basketball Camps *Locations in Hampton, New Hampton, Hampstead, Manchester and Nashua, 800-645-3226, ussportscamps.com/basketball/nike*

What: Camp for basketball players who want to improve their skills. Includes lectures, team games and daily emphasis on fundamental development. **Who:** Co-ed ages 7 through 17; a boys-only camp for ages 10 through 18 is offered in New Hampton. **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for a full day, 9 a.m. to noon for a half day, dates offered July 18 through Aug. 19; boys-only camp runs Sunday, July 24, through Thursday, July 28, extended day (9 a.m. to 9 p.m.) or overnight. **Cost:** \$135/half-day week, \$265/full-day week; boys-only camp is \$395 for extended day, \$595 for overnight.

Painted Blessings Horse Camp *Painted Blessings Ranch, 50 Manchester Drive, Webster, 568-8482, paintedblessingsranch.com*
What: Camp offers horsemanship instruction for riders of all ability levels. Horseback riding will be the main focus, but campers will also learn about barn-keeping, safe horse handling, and horse care, health and dietary needs. **Who:** Ages 6 through 16 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., offered June 27 through July 1, July 11 through July 15, July 25 through July 29, and Aug. 8 through Aug. 12. **Cost:** \$475/week

Pro Ambitions Hockey Day Camps *The Rinks at Exeter, 40 Industrial Drive, No. 1, Exeter; Tri-Town Ice Arena, 311 W. River Road, Hooksett; Conway Arena, 5 Stadium Drive, Nashua; Icecenter, 60 Lowell Road, Salem; 855-459-2267, proambitions.com*
What: At Super Combo Camp, campers will participate in game simulations and sniper/sharps shooting exercises, and learn how to skate and shoot at top speed. The Boston Bruins Camp features training in all aspects of ice hockey, plus daily appearances and autograph sessions with members of the Boston Bruins organization. A goaltending camp is also offered. **Who:** Ages 6 through 16 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, full days are 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., half days are 8:30 a.m. to noon, or noon to 4 p.m. Camps and dates vary at each location. Dates offered July 11 through Aug. 5. See website for full schedule. **Cost:** Ranges from \$319 to \$630, depending on the camp

Ramp Camp *6 Airfield Drive, Rye, 964-2800, ryeairfield.com*
What: Day and overnight camps for kids looking to improve their skills in riding skateboards, bikes and scooters. Instructors will teach tricks, run drills and work with each camper individually. **Who:** Ages 8 through



Nashua Community Music School summer camp. Courtesy photo.

17 **When:** Three- and five-day sessions run Monday to Wednesday/Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (8:30 a.m. to noon for half-day), dates offered June 20 through Aug. 26; Overnight sessions run Sunday at 6 p.m. through Friday at 3 p.m., offered July 10 through July 15, July 17 through July 22, July 31 through Aug. 5, and Aug. 7 through Aug. 12. **Cost:** Day camps range from \$119 to \$229, overnight camps range from \$579 to \$599

Soccer Sphere Summer Soccer Camp *Southern New Hampshire University and Livingston Park in Manchester; University of New Hampshire in Durham; Tibbetts Field in Madbury; Portsmouth High School; and New England College in Henniker; abc-sportscamps.com/ssoccer*
What: Programs include day and residential soccer camps, high school preseason training, goalkeeper training and more. **Who:** Ages 5 through 18 **When:** Four- and five-day sessions run various weekdays and dates from Monday, June 27, through Thursday, Aug. 11 **Cost:** Ranges from \$82.40 to \$595, depending on the camp

The British are Coming Soccer Camp *Livingston Park, Manchester; hosted by Manchester North Soccer League, 617-851-0428, mnsll.org/camps*

What: Campers of all ability levels will receive instruction from British soccer coaches. Techniques covered include dribbling, shooting, passing, heading, and trapping ground and air balls. The camp will progress from fundamental drills to a game situation. **Who:** Ages 5 through 15 **When:** Monday, July 25, through Friday, July 29, full-day from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., half-day from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; and Monday, Aug. 1, through Friday, Aug. 5, half-day only. **Cost:** \$125/half-day week, \$175/full-day week

Tri-Star Gymnastics & Dance *66 Third St., Dover, 749-5678, tristargymnh.com*

What: Camp features gymnastics, gym games, swimming, arts and crafts, reading/movie time and field trips. **Who:** Ages 5+ **When:** Camp days run 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., dates TBA **Cost:** \$174/week, \$48/day

Tumble Town Gymnastics *444 E. Industrial Park Drive, Manchester, 641-9591, tumbletownnh.com*

What: Camps offer gymnastics instruction for girls of all ability levels, from beginner to competitive. **Who:** Girls ages 5 through 15 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., dates offered July 11 through July 22 and Aug. 8 through Aug. 19 **Cost:** \$50/day, \$175/week

UNH Wildcats Camps *University of New Hampshire, 145 Main St., Durham, 862-1850, unhwildcats.com/camps/index*

What: Programs offered for basketball, lacrosse, field hockey, gymnastics, track and field, football, soccer, ice hockey, strength and conditioning, volleyball and swimming. Day and overnight options. **Who:** Ages 5+ **When:** Sessions run various days/weeks from Sunday, June 26, through Sunday, Aug. 7. See website for full schedule. **Cost:** Varies depending on the camp.

Youth Indoor Climbing Camp *Vertical Dreams Indoor Climbing Gym, 25 E. Otterson St., Nashua, 943-7571, verticaldreams.com/programs/indoor/youth*

What: Camp taught by experienced instructors focuses on climbing technique, route-following, safety, bouldering and how to become a better overall climber. **Who:** Ages 5 through 12 **When:** Sessions held two days a week, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., dates TBA **Cost:** \$65/week

Andy's Summer Playhouse *582 Isaac Frye Highway, Wilton, 654-2613, andyssummerplayhouse.org*

What: Andy's Academy teaches campers the fundamentals of theater, culminating with solo and small group performances based on this year's theme, "Identity." Productions include a hip-hop musical called *Samantha Rai*; *Playing Bo Peep*, a re-imagined world of Mother Goose; and *Viewfinder*, an exploration of how technology prevents people from living in the moment. Other programs include a playwriting lab, a stagehand apprenticeship and a film workshop. **Who:** Ages 8 through 18 **When:** Andy's Academy runs Tuesday, June 21, through Saturday, July 9; Production programs run for five weeks on various dates from Monday, June 20, through Saturday, Aug. 20. Dates for other programs TBA. **Cost:** Call for details.

Bedford Youth Performing Company *155 Route 101, Bedford, 472-3894, bypc.org*

What: Offers a variety of music, dance and theater camp programs, including Pre-school Music and Dance, Taste of Broadway, Rock Band, Music Recording and more. **Who:** Preschool through grade 12 **When:** Varies. **Cost:** Varies depending on the camp. See website for details.

Camp ENCORE *Prescott Park Arts Festival and partner Camp Center-Stage, Downtown Portsmouth, 436-2848, prescottpark.org/event/camp-encore*

What: Aspiring actors can learn music, singing, dancing, acting, visual arts and technical theater. Camp features guest artist teachers, specialized workshops and community outreach experiences. Each session culminates with a performance of either *School of Rock* or *Honk, Jr.* **Who:** Ages 8 through 17 **When:** Session 1 runs Monday, June 27, through Sunday, July 17; Session 2 runs Monday, July 18, through Sunday, July 31 **Cost:** \$775 for Session 1, \$525 for Session 2. Scholarships available.

Creative Kidz Camp *Londonderry Dance Academy, 21 Buttrick Road, Londonderry, 432-0032, londonderrydance.com*

What: Camp serves as an introduction to theater arts. Campers will participate in Creative Movement Class, which offers instruction in various forms of dance, including ballet and jazz. There will also be music classes and arts and crafts projects. Each day culminates with a theatrical performance. **Who:** Ages 3 through 6 **When:** Tuesday, July 5, through Friday, July 8, and Monday, Aug. 22, through Thursday, Aug. 25, 9 a.m. to noon **Cost:** \$125/week

Henniker Youth Theatre *John Stark Regional High School, 618 N. Stark Hwy.,*

Weare, 568-5102, alchemistsworkshop.org
What: A musical camp featuring *Alice in Wonderland*, and a non-musical camp featuring *Jo and Amy*, an adaptation of *Little Women*. **Who:** Ages 6 through 18 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on weekdays, 2 to 8:30 p.m. on weekends; *Alice in Wonderland* offered July 11 through July 16, *Jo and Amy* offered July 25 through July 30. **Cost:** \$225 for *Alice*, \$185 for *Jo and Amy*

New Hampshire Theatre Project *West End Studio Theatre, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth, 431-6644, ext. 4, nhtheatreproject.org*

What: Campers at Kids Theatre Camp (ages 6 through 9) and Teen Theatre Camp (ages 13 through 17) will learn about various aspects of theater. Story Theatre Camp (ages 8 through 12) focuses on theater inspired by children's literature and campers' original writing. Campers at Build Your Own Musical Camp (ages 8 through 12, held at Portsmouth Music & Arts Center) will study musicals, improvisation and group writing to create their own musical. Campers at Strafford Arts Camp (ages 8 through 14, held at Strafford School) will explore world cultures through theater, art and music. **Who:** Ages 6 through 17 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (9 a.m. to noon for Kids Theatre), offered various weeks from June 27 through Aug. 12 **Cost:** Ranges from \$275 to \$525, depending on the camp

NH Theatre Factory *The Derry Opera House, 29 W. Broadway, Derry, 635-4445, nhtheatrefactory.org*

What: The Factory's Stage Setters Youth Theatre Intensive is a curriculum-based program that focuses on various disciplines in the performing arts, including acting, music, movement and technical theater. Campers receive individual attention and have choices in electives. **Who:** Ages 8 through 19 **When:** Session runs Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Aug. 1 through Aug. 12 **Cost:** \$460

Palace Theatre *80 Hanover St., Manchester, 668-5588, palacetheatre.org*

What: Campers will learn about all aspects of theater including music, dance, acting, costume design, technical theater and more, all while developing teamwork skills, confidence and creativity. Each camp will conclude with a fully staged production on stage. This year's productions include *Disney's Little Mermaid Jr.*, *Shrek Jr.*, *Willy Wonka Jr.*, and *Disney's Beauty and The Beast Jr.* **Who:** Grades 2 through 12 **When:** Two-week sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., dates offered June 27 through Aug. 19 **Cost:** Ranges from \$385 to \$425 depending on the camp

Peacock Players Theatre Camp *Nashua Community College, 505 Amherst St., Nashua, 889-2330, peacockplayers.org*

What: Campers will participate in theater exercises, games and rehearsals to present a performance for family and friends at the end of the week. **Who:** Ages 6 through 18 **When:** Two-week sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., offered July 11 through July 23, and July 25 through Aug. 6 **Cost:** TBA

STEPS "A Call to the Wild" Dance Progressions, 109 Hillside Ave., Derry, 978-482-7733, stepsnh.org

What: Campers will participate in dance and vocal classes focused on songs from *The Lion King*, *Aida*, *Once on This Island* and *Tarzan*, as well as acting viewpoints. **Who:** Ages 12 through 18 **When:** Monday, July 11, through Friday, July 15, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. **Cost:** \$185

The Derryfield School Theatre Camp *2108 River Road, Manchester, 641-9426, derryfield.org/summer*

What: Campers will learn from talented young performers and practice acting, singing, dance, improvisation and audition techniques. Each age group will present a performance on closing day for family and friends. **Who:** Ages 8 through 18 **When:** Sessions run Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., offered July 11 through July 22, and Aug. 1 through Aug. 12 **Cost:** TBA

The Majestic Theatre *922 Elm St., Manchester, 669-7469, majestictheatre.net*

What: Campers will learn the basics of music, theater and dance through activities and will prepare for a performance to be held at the end of the session. This year's camp themes include Dinosaurs and Simply Seuss for ages 5 through 7, and Rockin' Tale of Snow White and King Midas & Palace of Gold for ages 8 through 14. **Who:** Ages 5 through 14 **When:** Sessions for ages 5 through 7 run various days, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., offered July 11 through July 29. Sessions for ages 8 through 14 run various days, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., offered July 18 through Aug. 13 **Cost:** \$200 for ages 5 through 7, \$300 for ages 8 through 14

Triple Threat Theater Camp *21 Buttrick Road, Londonderry, 432-0032, triplethreat-theatercamp.com*

What: Camp focuses on the core aspects of theater, including acting, dancing and voice. Led by experienced theater educators, directors and choreographers, campers will participate in workshops and rehearsals to prepare for a public performance at the end of the session. **Who:** Ages 5 through 17 **When:** Four-day session (ages 5 through 11) runs Tuesday, July 5, through Friday, July 8, 8:45 a.m. to 3:45 p.m.; three-week session (ages 7 through 17) runs Monday through Friday, 8:45 a.m. to 4:15 p.m., July 11 through July 29 **Cost:** \$225 for four-day session, \$690 for three-week session.

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THIS WEEK

EVENTS TO CHECK OUT FEBRUARY 18 - 24, 2016, AND BEYOND

Sunday, Feb. 21

The **New Hampshire Bridal Expo** will be at the Radisson Hotel (700 Elm St., Manchester) at 1 p.m. Brides-to-be are invited to bring their friends, family, fiancé and bridesmaids to make plans for their special day. Meet with wedding vendors such as photographers, videographers, entertainers, caterers, travel agents, bakers, florists and more. Admission is \$6 at the door. Preregister online for a discounted rate at newenglandbridalexpo.com.



Thursday, Feb. 18

The Free State Project hosts its 9th annual **New Hampshire Liberty Forum** from Thursday, Feb. 18, through Sunday, Feb. 21, at the Radisson Hotel (700 Elm St., Manchester) and other Manchester locations. The weekend features educational programs, networking, camaraderie and fun activities. Special speakers include Free State Project early movers, thought leaders and tastemakers, discussing various topics and issues in the state. Tickets start at \$80. Register online at nhlibertyforum.com.

Eat: Chili, soup and chowder

The **Brookline Chili-Soup-Chowder Cook-Off** will be at the Brookline Event Center (32 Proctor Hill Road) on Sunday, Feb. 21, from noon to 3 p.m. Visitors can sample and judge dishes from southern New Hampshire and northern Massachusetts restaurants, enjoy entertainment, raffles and prizes. Winners will be announced at 2:45 p.m. See Brookline Chili/Soup/Chowder Cook-Off on Facebook for more information.



Saturday, Feb. 20

The Concord Community Concerts Association's first concert of the year features pianist **FredERIC CHUI** with a recital that pits Prokofiev against Debussy in a classical smackdown, where the audiences will judge who the winner is. The show starts at 7:30 p.m. at the Concord City Auditorium (2 Prince St., Concord). Tickets are \$18 at the UPS Store, at Gibson's Bookstore or at the door. Call 344-4747 or visit concordcommunityconcerts.org.

Drink: IPA

IncrediBREW (112 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua) is hosting **four brewing events** featuring their most popular IPAs from Thursday, Feb. 18, to Sunday, Feb. 21, including Teddy Hopper on Thursday at 6 p.m., Zombie Lust on Friday at 6 p.m., Citra Pale Ale on Saturday at 2 p.m., and Hoptimist on Sunday at noon. The cost is \$30 per share, not including bottles. Register online at incredibrew.com.



Sunday, Feb. 21

Join Holly and the VLD Fitness team at LaBelle Winery (345 Route 101, Amherst) for a Sunday Fitness Funday event, **Zumba at the Winery**. Take a Zumba class from 11 a.m. to noon, then enjoy a brunch and wine tasting starting at 12:15 p.m. Tickets in advance are \$30, \$25 without the wine tasting. Tickets at the door are \$40/\$35. Register at tinyurl.com/ZumbaWineryNH.



Thursday, Feb. 25

Don't miss country artist **Jason Aldean** on his We Were Here tour at the Verizon Wireless Arena (555 Elm St., Manchester) at 7:30 p.m. Aldean is a three-time ACM "Male Vocalist of the Year" winner and has sold more than 10 million albums. He'll be performing with Thomas Rhett and A Thousand Horses. Tickets cost \$34.75 to \$64.75. Call 644-5000 or visit verizonwirelessarena.com. Courtesy photo of cmt.com

Be Merry: At the Winter Carnival

Wolfeboro's Winter Carnival begins Saturday, Feb. 20, and continues through Saturday, Feb. 27, at the Abenaki Ski Area (390 Pine Hill Road) and various Wolfeboro locations. Events include the Abenaki Winter Triathlon, the Abenaki Ski-A-Thon, the Progressive XC Ski Dinner, curling and ice fishing classes, horse-drawn sleigh rides, free ice skating and more. Visit wolfeboronh.us for the full schedule and to register for events.

Looking for more stuff to do this week? Check out **Hippo Scout**, available via the Apple App Store, Google Play and online at hipposcout.com.

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Theater premiere

Doug Schwartz, David Peck in *Gutenberg! The Musical!*

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

Best friends David Peck and Doug Schwartz of Concord weren't expecting a large crowd when they created their own version of *Gutenberg! The Musical!* by Anthony King and Scott Brown, but they very well may get one when they perform it at the Capitol Center for the Arts this Friday.

The play was originally supposed to happen in a backyard with 10, 15 audience members tops. They started rehearsing because Peck needed to put on a performance as his last singing lesson assignment from his teacher, Tony Bonjorno.

"For the past 27 years, I worked in the court system for the State of New Hampshire," Peck said. "One of the things I've always kind of wanted to do was take voice lessons and learn how to sing. ... But I was working a lot of hours and didn't have time to devote to practicing. When I went to part-time ... I said, if I'm ever going to do it, it's now."

He started at the end of 2013, right around when he turned 60. He mulled over performance possibilities one night while eating dinner with Schwartz, whom he'd met as a freshman at Colby College, and his wife, Colleen Schwartz. Should he go for karaoke? Showtunes? A recital?

"Then Colleen said, 'The two of you



Doug Schwartz and David Peck. Courtesy photo.

could do something together," said Peck.

Doug Schwartz boasts far more theater experience than Peck, but they'd jammed out and sung in chorales together. He knew Peck's potential.

"It wasn't that he needed to learn how to sing. He needed to develop confidence to feel he could sing well enough to sing in public. I knew he could sing. We've been singing together for decades," Doug Schwartz said.

Both liked the idea of collaborating, but neither guy knew any two-man musicals. So Colleen Schwartz searched online and found *Gutenberg! The Musical!* They ordered the original CD and fell in love — the songs were silly but good, and so was the play. Plus, Schwartz knew how to pull off silly, having directed the Community Players of Concord's take of *Spamalot* a couple years ago.

The musical is a play-within-a-play that was part of the 2005 and 2006 New

York Musical Theatre Festival, opening off-Broadway later that December. It follows two playwrights, Bud Davenport and Doug Simon, who've written a musical about printing press inventor Johannes Gutenberg.

They need to find big backers, and because they don't yet have the budget for a full cast and orchestra, they play all the characters themselves with the help of baseball caps with names on top.

The musical they've come up with is *Gutenberg! The Musical!*, which is set in a medieval German town, Schlimer, where

nobody except Gutenberg and the evil monk can read. His goal in turning his wine press into a printing press is to save the townspeople from their own ignorance, and he does so with help from his beautiful assistant, Helvetica. But Monk, who worships Satan, has his own plans to keep ignorance alive so he can control townspeople by making up the Bible's content. He hatches a plan to destroy the press with a No. 2 pencil.

"We initially thought maybe we'd perform two to three songs and do this as a mini-recital. ... But as we started working on it, it became clear nobody would understand these songs unless we have the surrounding dialogue," Peck said.

Soon they were learning the entire musical. Community Players of Concord member Bob Pearson sat in on a rehearsal and told them to aim higher, so they took the full production to the Players' Studio in Concord, open to only friends and members, for a performance last July. Folding chairs came out of storage and sat in front of a very minimalist warehouse stage.

There were no sets, no fancy costumes, only hats. Laughter filled the studio within the first few lines.

"We had no idea what would happen, but 80 people showed up, and they loved it. I had no idea how much people would like it, but we had more fun than I could have imagined in

my wildest dreams," Doug Schwartz said.

The Players' board asked them to perform it again in February, this time as a fundraiser. 🍀

“I had no idea how much people would like it, but we had more fun than I could have imagined in my wildest dreams.”

DOUG SCHWARTZ

See *Gutenberg! The Musical!*

Where: Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, with Brandon Buteau on piano

When: Friday, Feb. 19, at 8 p.m.

Admission: \$20

Contact: ccanh.com, 225-1111, communityplayersofconcord.org



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Notes from the theater scene

• **Surviving evil:** The Manchester Community Theatre Players present the multi-media production *Surviving Evil: The Holocaust Through the Story of Stephan H. Lewy* at the MCTP theater (and the North End Montessori School) 698 Beech St., Manchester, on Saturday, Feb. 20, at 7 p.m. The play, directed by Alan Kaplan and written by Tom Anastasi, with music by Peter Bridges, has been seen by thousands of middle and high school students the past 10 years and looks at the Holocaust through the eyes of Manchester resident Stephan H. Lewy, who lived in Berlin in the mid-1930s. It chronicles Lewy's life in Germany, his escape to France and his becoming an American citizen and soldier, and it shows him going back to his homeland as a member of Patton's Third Army and liberating the concentration camp in Buchenwald. Lewy has a cameo role in the play and will be available for a question-and-answer session afterward. It's rated PG-13 for graphic images of the liberation of Buchenwald. Tickets are \$8. Visit manchestercommunitytheatre.com or call 620-8553.

• **Theater training:** Theatre KAPOW hosts an open training session this Saturday, Feb. 20, from 10 a.m. to noon, on the third floor of 83 Hanover St., Manchester, which costs \$5 at the door. The company hosts these training sessions the third Saturday of every month. They focus on acting, movement, improvisation, voice, speech,



This weekend, the Manchester Community Theatre Players presents *Surviving Evil*, a view of the Holocaust from Manchester resident Stephan H. Lewy. Courtesy photo.

object work and viewpoints. Theatre KAPOW has worked and trained with Double Edge Theatre Company, the Michael Chekhov Studio, Shakespeare & Company, the Atlantic Acting School and SITI Company, and they draw on these techniques and methods in their work. No experience is necessary, though attendees should come dressed comfortably, ready to move. Visit tkapow.com/training.html or email info@tkapow.com.

• **Downton Abbey star in Portsmouth:** Jim Carter — i.e., Carson the Butler on *Downton Abbey* — is at The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, for an event to raise funds for Nepal earthquake victims this Thursday, Feb. 18, at 7:30 p.m. The event will feature live music and stories from *Downton Abbey*, plus the opportunity for audience members to ask questions about the actor and show. Humanitarian aid worker Linda Cruse will give an update on her foundation's (WandAid) work in Nepal, and ventriloquist-singer-songwriter Lesley Smith will emcee. Tickets are \$45 to \$75 VIP. Call 436-2400 or visit themusichall.org. — *Kelly Sennott*

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Theater Productions

• **THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE** Peacock Players production. Rated PG-13. Fri., Feb. 19, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 20, at 2 and 7 p.m.; Sun., Feb. 21, at 2 p.m. Janney B. Streeter Theater, 14 Court St., Nashua. \$10-\$17. Visit peacockplayers.org. Call 886-7000.

• **HAIRSPRAY, JR.** Palace Youth Theatre production. Fri., Feb. 19, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 20, at noon; Fri., Feb. 26, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 27, at noon. Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. \$14. palacetheatre.org. 668-5588.

• **GUTENBERG! THE MUSICAL** Community Players of Concord production. Featuring David Peck, Doug Schwartz, Brandon Buteau on piano. Fri., Feb. 19, at 8 p.m. Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord. \$20. Visit ccanh.com. Call 225-1111.

• **THE LITTLE MERMAID** Goffstown High School production. Fri., Feb. 19, at 7:30 p.m.;

Sat., Feb. 20, at 2 & 7:30 p.m. Goffstown High School, 27 Wallace Road, Goffstown. \$15. Visit goffstown.k12.nh.us.

• **SURVIVING EVIL: THE HOLOCAUST THROUGH THE STORY OF STEPHAN H. LEWY** Manchester Community Theatre Players production. Sat., Feb. 20, at 7 p.m. MCTP Theatre, 698 Beech St., Manchester. \$8 for adults, \$5 for students. Call 620-8553. Visit manchestercommunitytheatre.com.

Art

Openings

• **JOANNE GAUTHIER** Feb. featured artist. Reception Thurs., Feb. 18, 6-8 p.m. Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road, Hudson. rmlnh.org. 886-6030.

• **"KILLER HEELS: THE ART OF THE HIGH-HEELED SHOE"** Art exhibition. On view Feb. 6 through May 15. Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Call 669-67144. Visit currier.org/killerheels. Public tour Sat., Feb. 20, 11:30 a.m.

• **"LETINSKY + MARCUSE: A STILL DIALOGUE"** SNHU exhibition. Curated by Vanessa Rocco. On view Feb. 25 through April 2. Reception Thurs., Feb. 25, 5-7 p.m. McNinch Art Gallery, 2500 N. River Road, Manchester. Visit snhu.edu, call 629-4622, email m.gallery@snhu.edu.

Classical Music

Events

• **TEN STRINGS AND A GOATSKIN, MIPSO** Concert. Thurs., Feb. 18, at 7:30 p.m. Dana Center for the Humanities, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester. anselm.edu. 641-7700.

• **NASHUA CHAMBER ORCHESTRA** Winter concert, "From Shore to Shore." Featuring soloist Yasmin Soorayah Myers performing Vieuxtemps' "Violin Concerto No. 5." Sat., Feb. 20, at 7:30 p.m. Nashua Community College, 505 Amherst St., Nashua. \$18. Visit nco-music.org. Call 582-5211. Second concert Sun., Feb. 21, at 3 p.m. Milford Town Hall, 1 Union Square, Milford.

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ARTS

21st-century crafts

League show explores technology in art

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

The League of New Hampshire Craftsmen is at a technological crossroads, with laser cutters, 3-D printers, CNC scanners and plasma cutters.

It's becoming harder and harder for members to ignore these new tools that speed up the process and allow for new possibilities, and many have dipped their toes in. It's evident in the new show at the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen gallery, "Technology in a Handmade World," featuring pieces by James Cook, Kathleen Dustin, Greg Gorman, Adam Nudd-Homeyer, Joy Raskin, Wen Redmond and Sam Wild. All have used a variety of 21st-century devices to make their art on display.

It's been a topic of discussion in the group, whose members must go through a jurying process in order to get the League stamp of approval. The use of 21st-century devices allows for more opportunities for artists, but it also begs the question, does it make a piece less handmade? What are the rules?

"It's ultimately a tool for you to use. That's primarily how we're thinking right now, but this could change, especially with 3-D printing," Catherine Green, League gallery and standards manager, said at the gallery.

She said the goal of the show was to alert people about what's out there, what's possible and how the League is moving into a new age of making.

The show is tucked in alongside a larger enamel exhibition, occupying a small hallway. It contains pieces, plus artist statements and process documentation.

Dustin actually had a number of identical necklaces on display, one made with polymer clay, the rest with a 3-D printer. It's difficult to discern the difference. Her first piece was via clay, and its design had the natural aesthetic of something 3-D printed — and many early onlookers assumed it was.

"I made [the 3-D versions] because it was more appropriate for the design," Dustin said. "I thought, if people were thinking it was 3-D printed, then why am I making this all by hand?"

Dustin developed the 3-D print design with



Necklace by Kathleen Dustin. Courtesy photo.

the help of a computer program, Rhinoceros 3D, and a college student, before sending it to Shapeaways.com to be printed. She said it was a one-time thing.

"Unless I come up with a design that would also be better done if 3-D printed, I don't actually have much interest in it because I like working with my hands. Even those necklaces there, they were 3-D printed, but some of them I dyed by hand," Dustin said.

Wen Redmond's pieces are mixed media wall art featuring textured photos and digital collage, which meld her love of photography and fiber arts. Back in the '80s, when she'd wanted to get photos printed on quilts, she had to do it at a copy shop.

"When computers and printers were able to communicate, and digital cameras came into being, that's when I was able to move forward, essentially printing photos on material," Redmond said. "There are so many creative things you can do. ... For me, this is an exploratory process."

Jewelry artist James Cook said he invested in a 3-D printer two years ago so he would no longer have to hand-carve certain jewelry components. You really can't do everything as a jewelry artist by hand and keep prices low, anyway, he said. Lots of jewelers outsource mass-produced materials or components, but this way, Cook can do it all in house.

"And I can give people more unique products by not having to buy the same components as every other jeweler in America," Cook said.

One of Cook's pieces in the show is a necklace featuring a stone found in Westmoreland. It sits in an eight-pronged frame designed on a 3-D printer, which was then cast in silver and finished with a laser welder. Another necklace features a gold snowflake, something really hard, if not impossible, to carve by hand.

Using these tools allows local jew- 27

See "Technology in a Handmade World"

Where: Craft Center Gallery, 49 S. Main St., Concord

When: On view through March 18; exhibition hours are Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Saturday during exhibitions 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Contact: nhcrafts.org

LOCAL — COLOR —

NH art world news

• **Touchable art:** The Portsmouth Public Library (175 Parrott Ave., Portsmouth, 427-1540) hosts a highly tactile, high-contrast show presented by the League of New Hampshire Craftsmen and the New Hampshire Association for the Blind, "Insightful," which is on view now through March 9. The show is compatible for all visitors, including those who are visually impaired, who can feel and touch the pieces at their leisure with Braille text provided. This marks the first stop in a New Hampshire-wide tour. For more information, visit cityofportsmouth.com/library or visit facebook.com/pplnh.

• **Looking for eagle artists:** The Easter Seals program, Veterans Count, is looking for artists to participate in the Eagle Parade fundraising project, according to a recent press release, an initiative that centers around creating four-and-a-half-foot-tall eagle sculptures that will be placed in an exhibit and auctioned off Veterans Day 2016. Ninety cents of every dollar raised benefits Veterans Count, which brings emergency aid to veterans and their families and provides timely financial assistance when no other resources are available.

Artists should submit an application for approval to dress their own eagle in the parade, with all art forms welcome, including fine art, mixed media, textile, pottery, jewelry, etc. Artists will receive a \$750 stipend for participating in the event. Vibrant, funny or uplifting designs are encouraged (though must be appropriate for public display). Email jdjh@revenuebanking.com.

• **Last chance:** Design submissions for the Think Outside the Box Public Art Project are due Feb. 22. Chosen artists will receive a \$400 stipend for materials and labor to paint downtown Manchester traffic boxes. The goal of the project is to beautify the city by



Work by Art Anderson, on view at "Insightful." Courtesy photo.

infusing art and creativity into the urban landscape, add to the vitality and attractiveness of downtown and celebrate and highlight local artists. Any New Hampshire resident is eligible and may submit up to three designs, sent via hard copies or jpegs to info@550arts.com. In March, the jury will review and make the selection of three designs with two back-ups. In April, artists will paint the boxes (depending on weather).

• **NHIA action:** New Hampshire Institute of Art Dean of Graduate Programs and artist Lucinda Bliss was awarded the Kindling Grant to fund an upcoming creative endeavor, Tracking the Border, an interdisciplinary project in which Bliss will travel the length of the 611-mile border of Maine and Canada by running, paddling, snowshoeing and snowmobiling. During this journey, she'll engage in dialogue with a variety of people — native, forestry, geology and border patrol communities — about border issues.

Also at the school is the annual "Minimalist" exhibition, on view at the French Building, 148 Concord St., Manchester. It contains a selection of work from NHIA faculty, staff and students from all disciplines. All are tiny pieces, no larger than four inches by four inches by four inches, and all are for sale. The show is on view now through Feb. 24 and has an opening reception this Thursday, Feb. 18, from noon to 1 p.m. Visit nhia.edu. — *Kelly Sennott* 🍀

◀ 26 elry makers to keep prices low, and Cook also hopes it encourages more people to explore the art. But it also puts ethics of hand craftsmanship on the line.

"The whole goldsmith, silversmith, metalsmith [profession] is a dying trade. I think there aren't as many of us out there anymore. So you're seeing a younger generation now coming in through the ranks. ... If [the League] doesn't allow it, they're going to be missing out on a lot of unique artists, but it also opens up a huge can of worms about who's honest and who's actually making the jewelry, not just designing it. The biggest question mark is, how do they control it?"

Dustin echoed this idea.

"I feel like we have to talk about it. I feel like it's yet another tool for us. We can't just throw it out. Having said that, I do like to see

evidence of the hand," Dustin said. "I think the League should start figuring out how best to accept these, maybe not as a medium itself, but as a tool within mixed media. ... The public, they've heard of 3-D printing, but they don't know how it might fit into a craftsman's work."

Green said it's something the standards committee is still talking about, and probably will continue to talk about on a case-by-case basis.

"We're not mass-producers. This is a league of hand-crafted work. But there are tools available. You just always want your hand in the process," Green said. "We're formulating some guidelines to discuss advanced technologies. ... Right now, our overriding standard is that there should be clear decision-making at every step of the way so that a machine does not do that for you." 🍀



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From yoga to pilates, cooking to languages to activities for the kids, Hippo's weekly listing offers a rundown of all area events and classes. Get your program listed by sending information to listings@hippopress.com at least three weeks before the event.

Looking for more events for the kids, nature-lovers and more? Check out **Hippo Scout**, available via the Apple App Store, Google Play or online at hipposcout.com.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE

A wintery weekend

Lowell WinterFest offers outdoor winter fun

By Angie Sykeny
asykeny@hippopress.com

Even the most dedicated winter-haters may find it hard to stay inside during the 16th Annual Lowell WinterFest, happening Friday, Feb. 19, and Saturday, Feb. 20. With entertainment, a carnival, food and drink events, kids' activities and more throughout the city, the event spreads the idea that winter isn't just something to tolerate — it's something to celebrate.

"With the fire pits and outdoor bars and marshmallow roasting, it pushes people outside to take advantage of the winter instead of staying indoors," said Susan Halter, director of the Lowell Cultural Affairs/Special Events Office and the Cultural Organization of Lowell. "It's a winter festival that truly celebrates winter."

The festival kicks off Friday with ice skating, crafts and kids' programs part of Lowell Kids Week.

The WinterFest Opening Ceremony takes place at Arcand Drive at 5:30 p.m., along with a ribbon-cutting for the festival's new Winter Carnival (open until 9 p.m.). The

Lowell WinterFest

Where: Various locations in Lowell, Mass.

When: Friday, Feb. 19, and Saturday, Feb. 20. See website for full schedule of events.

Cost: Free admission. Some events and activities have a fee and/or require registration.

Visit: lowell.org or [facebook.com/LowellWinterFest](https://www.facebook.com/LowellWinterFest)



The Snowzilla Slide at the Lowell WinterFest. Courtesy photo.

carnival features a 30-foot inflatable Snowzilla Slide, a carousel, food trucks and marshmallow roasting.

To replace the popular Human Dog Sled Race, which has been discontinued after ongoing challenges with snow conditions, there will be a new Extreme Rush inflatable obstacle course with two tracks so people can race each other. The competitor with the best time from both days will win a prize.

The hotspot for Friday evening is Lucy Larcom Park, with the Merrimack Canal light display serving as a backdrop. The display is part of the launch of Lowell's new year-round lighting program, which will provide light displays with customized patterns and colors to emphasize special events and holidays.

"That's one of the big highlights to look for this year," Halter said.

"The park is going to be beautiful."

From 5:30 to 11:30 p.m., the park will have food and beverage tents, music, an outdoor ice bar and fire pits. You can also watch an ice sculpture demonstration or catch the Cirque de Light performance duo's partner poi fire show.

The Progressive Party and Beer Tasting (\$25 in advance, \$30 at the door) starts at 6 p.m. in the park, where attendees can sample locally made craft brews, then head into downtown to sample more at participating businesses.

Glow all out for the black-light GLOW Party (\$2) at the Masonic Center from 6 to 8 p.m., for all ages, and 9 to 11:30 p.m., for 18+. There will be performances, a DJ and an appearance by the WinterFest mascot Lowla, a fluorescent bear who loves to boogie.

Start Saturday with wildlife tracking, maple sugaring or a

horse-drawn wagon ride. The carnival will be open noon to 7 p.m., and Lucy Larcom Park will be open noon to 11:30 p.m., with the same festivities as Friday.

Bring the kids to Lowell High School from noon to 5 p.m., for the Indoor Family Play Space, featuring games, music, crafts, entertainment and a model train display. *Frozen* fans, head to the Visitor Center for a *Frozen* craft at 2 p.m. and a showing of the movie at 4:30 p.m.

Indulge your sweet tooth at the All-You-Can-Eat Chocolate Festival (\$6) from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., or vote for your favorite soup at the North Bowl Soup Competition (\$6) from noon to 3 p.m.

Evening events include a belly dancing class and the Beer and Electro-Acoustic Music Pairing Contest (\$30, \$25 for students, free for non-drinkers) at 7 p.m., where you can sample craft beers accompanied by music to enhance the experience.

Both days will have free music and comedy shows as well as the Snowman Photo Trail where you can tour the decorated snowmen in the windows of downtown businesses, then strike a pose at a dozen different photo boards painted by Lowell artists.

The WinterFest Closing Ceremony & Grand Finale will take place at Arcand Drive at 6:30 p.m.

"February can be a hard month for people," Halter said. "The holidays are over but we're still deep in snow, so [WinterFest] is a great way to get out, get rid of cabin fever and have fun outside in the winter." 🍷

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KIDDIE — POOL —

Family fun for the weekend

Wintery fun

The Merrimack Parks and Recreation Department presents the **24th Annual Winter Carnival at Wasserman Park** (116 Naticook Road, Merrimack) on Saturday, Feb. 20, from noon to 3 p.m. Enjoy an afternoon of winter fun for the whole family, including food, arts and crafts, carnival games, snowshoeing, raffles, storytimes, a youth ice fishing derby, snowmobile rides, a campfire with s'mores and the 2nd Annual Cardboard Box Sledding Contest. Visit merrimacknh.gov/parks-and-recreation.

The **Amherst Carnival** will have fun for the whole family on Friday, Feb. 19, starting at 5:30 p.m., and Saturday, Feb. 20, starting at 2 p.m. Enjoy ice skating, music, bonfires, snowshoeing, youth and adult broomball tournaments, and meet the Amherst Bear. To see the full schedule, visit amherstrec.org or facebook.com/amherstrec.

Future Monarchs

It's **Youth Hockey Night** at the Manchester Monarchs vs. Reading Royals game on Saturday, Feb. 20, at 7 p.m., at the Verizon Wireless Arena (555 Elm St., Manchester). The game honors all the local youth hockey players. There will be Jersey Rally Towels for 4,000 fans, and one lucky youth player will have the chance for a meet-and-greet and locker room tour with their favorite Monarchs player after the game. Tickets start at \$9. Visit manchestermmonarchs.com.

Oh-so sweet

Kick off Sugar Season at **Maple Day** on Saturday, Feb. 20, from 10 to 11:30 a.m., at the Wadleigh Memorial Library (49 Nashua St., Milford). Kids will get to tap one of the maple trees on the library's campus, then go inside for stories, crafts and pancakes with locally made maple syrup. No registration required. Call 249-0645 or visit wadleighlibrary.org.



Young hockey fans enjoy a Manchester Monarchs game. Courtesy photo.

The Culinary Playground (16 Manning St., Derry) will have a cooking class on Saturday, Feb. 20, from 10 a.m. to noon, as part of its Sweet Saturdays series for kids ages 6 to 10. This month's recipe is **raspberry cheesecake bites**. The cost for the class is \$40. Call 339-1664 or visit culinary-playground.com.

Crows & clay creatures

Join Amoskeag Fishways (4 Fletcher St., Manchester) on Friday, Feb. 19, from 6:30 to 8 p.m., for a family fun night about **clever crows**. Learn why American crows form large flocks in the winter and how they use teamwork and communication to get through the cold months. The cost is \$8 per family, and advance registration is required. Call 626-3474 or visit amoskeagfishways.org.

Parents and kids are invited to the Currier Art Center (180 Pearl St., Manchester) for a Day to Play in Clay parent/child workshop on Saturday, Feb. 20, from 1 to 3 p.m. Bring in a picture of your pet or favorite animal and **sculpt it out of clay**. Get creative by adding hats, shoes, instruments or any other accessories, then give it some crazy colors with glazes. Projects will be fired and available for pickup two weeks later. This activity is for children ages 5 and older and costs \$25 per parent-and-child pair. Call 669-6144 or visit currier.org.

businesses, or have an existing website that needs improvement. Bryan Higgs will lead a monthly workshop on WordPress for people of all skill levels. Sat., Feb. 20, 10 a.m. to noon. Will continue monthly. Wadleigh Memorial Library, 49 Nashua St., Milford. Free. Call 249-0645.

Health & Wellness

Wellness workshops
• **EXPLORING MEDITATION**
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berg of Goffstown Insight. Tues., Feb. 23, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Parish House of St. Matthew's Episcopal Church, 7 N. Mast St., Goffstown. Call 497-2102.

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IN/OUT THE GARDENING GUY

Groundhog soup

Summer veggies in a winter dish

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

The old-timers say that on Groundhog Day we should still have half our wood supply or more. This year I had more than half as it's been a warm winter. At the halfway point I always want to still have plenty of vegetables left from the summer, and I do. To celebrate Groundhog Day this year I made a soup of my own vegetables, largely with root crops stored in the basement in an old fridge. Here is what I used:

- 1 rutabaga, cut in ½-inch cubes
- 1 kohlrabi, cut in ½-inch cubes
- 5 carrots, cut in rounds
- 3 medium-small yellow onions, finely chopped
- ½ a small celeriac, finely chopped
- 1 huge garlic clove, finely chopped
- 5 frozen whole large tomatoes (or substitute a 28-ounce can crushed tomatoes)
- 2 cups winter squash, steamed
- 2-3 tablespoons finely chopped fresh ginger
- 1 teaspoon dried parsley
- ¼ to ½ teaspoon dried hot pepper (optional)
- fresh rosemary (3-4 sprigs)
- 1 quart vegetable stock
- 1 cup cider
- Olive oil, salt and pepper as needed

To make the soup I began by sautéing the onions in olive oil until translucent. I use a heavy enameled iron pot for this. While the onions were cooking I chopped the rutabaga and kohlrabi into half-inch cubes, and the carrots into rounds. I added a quart of vegetable stock (I could have made my own, but cheated and used store-bought). Then I put in the root crops I'd cut up and turned down the heat to simmer. I added a cup of cider made from my own apples that I'd frozen, then thawed for this.

I'm sorry to admit that my supply of whole frozen tomatoes is getting low and will have to revert to store-bought canned tomatoes before the new crop comes in this summer. I freeze whole tomatoes in zipper bags in September because it is such an easy way to put them up, much easier than canning. Now I just run them under hot tap water and rub off the skins. I let them sit for a few minutes, then chop them up and toss into the pot.

I added some Espelette hot pepper powder — my own that I dried and ground in the coffee grinder, but you can add jalapeno and use more or leave it out altogether. I added dried parsley and fresh garlic, rosemary and ginger at this time, too.

I always have plenty of winter squash. This year I grew two large Hubbard squash in addition to many smaller Waltham butternut squash. For this soup I cracked open a Hub-



View of interior of celeriac.

bard even though I couldn't use all the meat from this 10-pound squash all at once. I cut it into many pieces, removed the seeds, and steamed it in a stock pot until it was soft.

I separated the flesh of the squash from the leathery skin with a large spoon and used 2 cups of the meat for this soup. The rest I cooled, then bagged and froze for later. I blended the squash in my food processor with liquid and tomato chunks from the soup pot, though you could use chunks of squash in the soup instead. I find pureeing it makes for a nice thick soup.

Last summer I dug my rosemary in mid-September and potted it in a 50-50 mix of potting soil and good compost. I've had it in a south-facing window and it has some soft growth as it leans toward the window, but is healthy, overall. I will start increasing the water to it as spring gets nearer. By March it will need twice as much water as I give it now. Three sprigs of this added good flavor to my soup.

A few words about rutabagas and kohlrabi. They are both great "keepers" for winter storage. Rutabaga grows well in full sun and rich, lightly moist soil. They need to be thinned to 8 inches apart early on or else you'll get big tops and small roots. The flesh is sweet, not bitter the way some turnips can be. It works like potatoes in a soup, but never crumbles apart the way potatoes do.

Kohlrabi comes in purple or white varieties, and both are crispy and fresh in a salad, soup or stir-fry. Kossak is a white variety that can be left in the ground all summer, getting huge — 8 inches or more — but not tough. It is designed for winter storage, and I usually grow some. Thin to 6 to 8 inches apart for good production, more if you are growing Kossak.

If you don't have rutabagas or kohlrabi, you can substitute potatoes and perhaps add something else from your garden. I generally boil potatoes separately when adding to a soup or stew and add them toward the end so that they are not mushy or crumbly. I bet green beans would be good in this soup, too. Whatever you use, it's bound to be good. Bon appetit!

Henry gardens and cooks in Cornish Flat. His e-mail is henry.homeyer@comcast.net. Or write him at P.O. Box 364, Cornish Flat, NH 03746. Please include a stamped envelope if you want him to answer a question.

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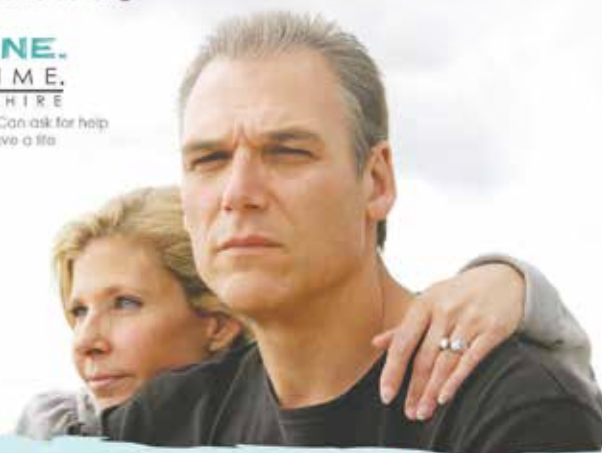
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IN/OUT TREASURE HUNT

Dear Donna,

I recently bought this butter churn in an antique shop. My question is if you know the age of this and if I could still use it today. Any information would be appreciated.

Wendy from Hooksett

Dear Wendy,

Your butter churn looks to be very clean and free of rust or corrosion. I think before I would use it, though, I would make sure all the metal is sterilized and not flaking in any areas that are exposed to the cream. Make sure the crank gear is also in good working order.



Your butter churn is from after the 1900s, even though churns have been around a lot longer than that. The Dazey glass butter churns are the ones you most commonly see today. Some of them can bring lots of money if they are unusual sizes. But there were many other companies that made them as well. Rarity, size, condition and how easy they are to find set the prices.

What I like the most about your churn is that you're considering using it. In the fast-paced world we live in today, it's nice to see that some of the old items with history can still find a home and be used. Think of how much butter that churn has already made in its days, never knowing that one day it would end up in your home.

I don't know what you paid for your churn, but the value is around \$95. Your using it, though, is well worth whatever you paid. Enjoy the butter.

Donna Welch has spent more than 20 years in the antiques and collectibles field and owns From Out Of The Woods Antique Center in Goffstown (fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com). She is an antiques appraiser and instructor. To find out about your antique or collectible, send a clear photo of the object and information about it to Donna Welch, From Out Of The Woods Antique Center, 465 Mast Road, Goffstown, N.H., 03045. Or email her at footwdw@aol.com. Or drop by the shop (call first, 624-8668).

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• **TAX HELP** Volunteers from the AARP will be at the library to help senior citizens and low to moderate income taxpayers of all ages with their federal tax returns. Tax assistance volunteers do not, however, help prepare Schedule C over \$10,000 in expenses, Schedule E, complicated/lengthy Schedule D forms without proper paperwork, or other specialized forms. Taxpayers with complex tax forms are advised to seek paid tax help. Mon. and Sat., Feb. 1 through April 11 (except Feb. 13, 15, March 12, and April 9). Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road, Hudson. Go to rmlnh.org/events or call the library to make an appointment. Walk-ins welcome if space is available. Call 886-6030.

Misc Card, board & dice games for adults

• **ADULT GAME NIGHTS**
Round up some friends to compete in Super Smash Bros. for Wii U on the big screen, or bring your own system and get others to play. Play board games including Pictionary, Blokus, Cranium, Apples to Apples, and Scrabble; or bring whatever you and your friends like to play. Open to adult 18 and up. Mon., Feb. 22 and 29, 7 to 9 p.m. Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. Free. Snacks are provided. If you have a Wii U controller bring it along. Visit nashualibrary.org.

• **WEEKLY CRIBBAGE LEAGUE** Weekly Cribbage League in Merrimack. Alcohol and smoking is not permitted. Also looking for substitutes. Wednesday nights. Starts between 5:15 and 5:45 p.m. League runs through April. VFW, 282 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack. Cost \$5/week with weekly payouts for top teams. For more info, contact Scott at 429-9521 or mortimer@gmail.com.

Stewart will teach a seminar on how to build a reliable relationship with your dog. It focuses on fundamental techniques and ideas to put you in a better position to train at home or in group classes with a local dog trainer. Open to the public as well as professional dog trainers, vets, etc. Mon., Feb. 29, 7 to 9 p.m. NH SPCA, 104 Portsmouth Ave, Stratham. \$59. Visit grishastewart.com.

Religion-related events

• **THE MINGLING OF SOULS MARRIAGE CONFERENCE**
For married couples and those anticipating getting married. A live streaming of Matt and Lauren Chandler's The Mingling of Souls Marriage two-day Conference. An offering will be taken to offset expenses. Fri., Feb. 19, 7 to 10:15 p.m., and Sat., Feb. 20, 9 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Emmanuel Baptist Church, 14 Mammoth Road, Hooksett. Free. Visit emmanuel-baptistchurch.com/marriage.

Nature & Gardening Beekeeping events

• **BEE SCHOOL** Learn how to raise bees in this 6-week course. Feb. 19 to April 22. South Congregational Church, 27 Pleasant St., Concord. \$65. Visit capitalareabeekeepers.org.

Pet programs

• **DOG TRAINING SEMINAR**
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Up to the challenge

Startup competition kicks off in Manchester



VidFall CEO Joel Robinson, winner of the 2015 New Hampshire Startup Challenge (left), standing with Jeff Kelley, co-founder of BevNow and winner of the People's Choice award (right). Courtesy photo.

By Angie Sykeny
asykeny@hippopress.com

A four-month-long competition designed to help promising entrepreneurs advance their business plans will have its kickoff event at the Manchester Alpha Loft on Wednesday, Feb. 24, as part of National Entrepreneurship Week.

The Manchester Young Professionals Network's 9th annual New Hampshire Startup Challenge will give Granite State startup companies the opportunity to compete for up to \$70,000 in cash and in-kind services. The kickoff event will provide information about the competition, tips from past winners and networking with business leaders, inventors and entrepreneurs. Gov. Maggie Hassan will also make an appearance.

"A lot of New Hampshire is built on entrepreneurship so the competition was started to further that," Timothy Paradis, co-chair of the challenge, said. "It gives people who want to open their own business an opportunity to develop that process and, if they win, get the cash and services to support and further their business."

To enter the competition, you must be a New Hampshire resident and the owner or founder of a startup. Your startup needs to be for-profit, to have been in existence for less than three years, to have raised less than \$100,000 in funding and to have generated less than \$100,000 in revenue in 2015.

The first-round application is due March 18. On the form, applicants are asked to provide an overview of their startup's history, products or services, marketing opportunities, competitive advantage, busi-

ness strategy, team members' roles, a five-year financial projection and, finally, an explanation of how they will use the prize money and in-kind services if they win the challenge.

From the applications, five to seven semi-finalists will be chosen to give a five-minute live pitch at the public semi-final event on April 5. Then, three finalists will be chosen to work with Alpha Loft mentors to prepare for a closed, in-depth presentation of their business plan to a panel of judges on April 25. The finalists will give one last live pitch to a public audience at the final event on May 11, when the winner will be announced.

The winning startup will receive \$55,000 in cash and in-kind services; legal, accounting and marketing services from various local businesses, and a one-year residency at Alpha Loft. The second-place startup will receive a cash prize between \$5,000 and \$10,000, and the People's Choice Award winner selected by the audience will receive a cash prize of up to \$5,000.

Paradis says the startups who don't win a prize will still gain valuable experience and feedback and form connections.

"An idea is just the beginning," he said. "To move forward, you need to believe in your idea, and the challenge provides a support system for people who may otherwise feel like their business doesn't have value, to help them keep plugging along."

NH Startup Challenge Kickoff

When: Wednesday, Feb. 24, at 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

Where: Alpha Loft, 844 Elm St., Suite 100, Manchester

Cost: Free. Register online.

Visit: mypn.org

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104342

Stick versus automatic when learning to drive



By Ray Magliozzi

Dear Car Talk:

I'm a single mom, and I have four children who will all be driving in the next two to five years. I want them to learn on a manual transmission. I did, and I believe that it made me a better, more knowledgeable driver. But above and beyond that, my No. 1 concern is their safety. Do you think it is safer for them to learn on an automatic car, which might be simpler, given all the modern world's distractions? Or would it be better to have them learn on a manual-transmission car, which keeps them mentally engaged in the driving process, and therefore more focused? Is knowing how to drive a car with a manual transmission still something every "real man" needs to know how to do (in which case my daughter as well, obviously)? Or are automatic transmissions so ubiquitous that it's more like insisting that my children know how to shoe horses? I currently have a 2001 Honda Odyssey and a 1996 Honda Accord, both automatic transmissions, so a manual would be an investment. But if it's worth it, I'm giving myself two years' lead time in asking. — Karen

I think I'd lean toward letting them learn

on an automatic. For one thing, it does remove one complication — shifting gears — that itself can be a distraction for a new driver. And taking gear-shifting out of the equation allows them to concentrate on learning to steer, brake, accelerate, merge and hold their Pumpkin Spice Latte in one hand while texting with the other. You add a manual transmission to the mix, and they'll have to learn to hold the drink with their teeth. And we all know how many accidents are caused by crotch burns when they drop those drinks.

But the factor that really pushes me to the automatic solution for you is that you don't have lot of money to spare. If you were to trade one of your cars for a stick-shift model, that would cost you some bucks right there. But worse, with four teenagers learning to drive, you'd have to sign up for the Clutch-of-the-Month Club. And clutch replacements now average about a thousand bucks.

Once they've mastered the basics, then I think it's a great idea to give them the skill of driving a stick shift. It is becoming less and less likely that they'll need to drive one, these days — stick-shift purchases are well down into the single digits as a percentage of new-car sales. And none of the electric cars coming out have stick shifts.

So once they've all learned to drive well,

then you can get yourself a car with a manual transmission. Offer to teach any of your interested children to drive it. By then, they'll have a little experience, be a little more mature and be a little less likely to fry your clutch in one afternoon of hill starts.

They also may be much more motivated to learn, because why? It gives them the opportunity to borrow Mom's car! And with the four of them fighting over the use of the other, automatic car, I bet you'll do some brisk business in driver training.

Dear Car Talk:

My son's car is a 2010 Camaro. It has Pirelli all-season tires on it. We have an argument about how much tire pressure these tires should be riding on. The sidewalls of the tires say 50 psi, but the service tech said to put in only 35 psi. We put in 35 psi, and the car rode rough. We put back in 50 psi, and my son says the car rides better. The 50 psi seems like an awful lot of air. But it's on the side of the tire. What's the right answer? — Larry

You might have a medical situation on your hands, Larry. If your son thinks the car rides better with 50 pounds of air in each tire, I'd rush him right over to the nearest 24-hour tuchus specialist to make sure he still has sensation in both butt cheeks.

Fifty psi is a lot of pressure for a passenger-car tire. That number is on the sidewall because it's the tire's maximum allowable pressure. That means you can put up to 50 pounds of air in that tire without worrying about the tire exploding or deforming to the point where the car won't handle safely.

But the maximum pressure — that number on the sidewall — is not the same as the recommended tire pressure. And that's the number you're looking for. You'll usually find the recommended pressure on a sticker inside of the driver's door pillar. That number probably is closer to 30 or 35 psi. That's the pressure at which the manufacturer believes the tires provide the best balance of handling and comfort. And that's what I'd use.

Driving with 50 psi in your tires is like driving on four round boulders. You'll feel every piece of chewed gum that someone else has tossed out his window. The tradeoff is that you'll get slightly better mileage. But for most people, trading off so much comfort for a little more fuel economy is not worth it.

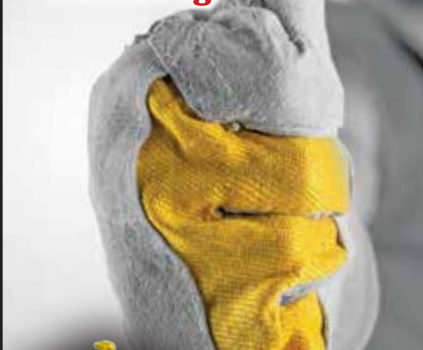
But if he likes it at 50 psi, he's free to drive with 50 psi; it's probably not unsafe. Plus, with his head banging on the roof over all those bumps, he'll never fall asleep at the wheel!

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ON THE JOB

PAUL JOHNSON DIRECTOR OF ANALYTICS

Paul Johnson is the director of health plan analytics at the startup Vitals and its subsidiary SmartShopper, a small company in Manchester that is giving Anthem patients cash for getting certain medical procedures done at less expensive facilities.

Q: *Explain what your current job is.*

I've worn a number of different hats at Compass, and then we merged with Vitals. Right now, we really build the foundation for everything that happens in SmartShopper and also the cost side of VitalsChoice. We'll take in the raw claims data from a health plan and we'll crunch it up into a very member-friendly view. So there may be nine different codes for a colonoscopy out there. We will take those nine different codes, and we want to make sure we're getting the hospital portion of cost, we're getting the surgeon's portion of cost and we're getting the anesthesiologist in there. ... We will

bunch all those all up into a neat estimate so we can say hospital X costs this much for a knee surgery, hospital Y costs that much for a knee surgery.

How long have you worked there?

I came to Compass just over three years ago and a little over a year ago we merged with Vitals. ... I was with Blue Cross Blue Shield Association of Chicago before that. I was actually a finance guy.

How did you get interested in this field?

I think I just fell into health care data analytics kind of by luck. I was always stronger in math and a little bit more quantitative in

my approach to things. It was really just through random happenstance; through a friend of a friend, I ended up going to work with Blue Cross Blue Shield. That's when I really began to get into the claims analysis.

What kind of education or training did you need for this job?

I got my MBA in finance, which I certainly think is a good background. My undergrad is in psychology so I don't think that's really related.

How did you find your current job?

I had signed up to a number of newsfeeds on health care transparency because at that point I had fully transitioned over to the consumer tools team in ... Blue Cross Blue Shield and I saw a press release pop up for Compass Healthcare Advisers, clicked on it, started reading about it. ... After talking to them for a few months, [I] decided to make the leap to the startup world.

What's the best piece of work-related advice anyone's ever given you?

I have a friend ... [who said], "Don't settle for stuff." ... She had gone to United Airlines in finance and quit after eight weeks. She said, "This isn't going to work for me." She pulled



Courtesy photo.

the ripcord and hit the reset button on it. I think there's something to be said for that. If you're stuck in a bad situation, it's really up to you to get out of it.

What do you wish you'd known at the beginning of your career?

Honestly, I really wish I had gone straight into the startup world ... or at least gone to the startup world sooner. It's really a lot more fulfilling.

What is your typical at-work uniform?

When we were Compass, we dressed up a little bit more. Vitals is pretty casual now, so, jeans. I usually wear a button-down shirt and sneakers.

What was the first job you ever had?

The very first one was actually at Wrigley Field. I was one of the vendors walking up and down selling mostly Pepsi.

— Ryan Lessard ☺

Five favorites

Favorite Book: *Catch-22* by Joseph Heller

Favorite Movie: *Straight Outta Compton*

Favorite Musician: Ellie Goulding

Favorite Food: Chicago-style pizza

Favorite Thing About NH: The outdoors

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News from the local food scene

By Allie Ginwala
food@hippopress.com

FOOD

Back to the kitchen

The Farmers Dinner kicks off 2016 with a taqueria pop-up

By Allie Ginwala
aginwala@hippopress.com

Gearing up for another year of bringing folks fresh and creative local cuisine, The Farmers Dinner begins the 2016 season with a two-night pop-up taqueria at Riverwalk Cafe in Nashua, continuing the recent trend of presenting more interactive, less formal dinners.

Pop-up playgrounds

"Pop-ups are kind of our playground," Keith Sarasin, chef and founder of The Farmers Dinner, said in a phone interview. "It allows us to be creative with the menu, and if we have a dinner we go a little too crazy on, it doesn't break the bank for us and set us back as a company."

Typically smaller-scale events with lower price points, pop-up dinners give Sarasin and the others putting on the meal more time to chat with diners, getting feedback and talking about the impact of local agriculture on the night's meal.

"We tend to have a very diverse demographic, younger couples, much older couples, [but] one of the commonalities is people love food and good drinks, so we're trying to make it affordable, but yet you feel like you get an incredible five-star experience," he said.

Guests can still expect the tried and true aspects of Farmers Dinner events at a pop-up — like the chance to hear from farmers, chefs, restaurant owners and those involved with presenting the meal — but overall there

Farmers Dinner Taqueria Pop-up

When: Sunday, Feb. 28, at 4:30 p.m. and Monday, Feb. 29, at 7 p.m.

Where: Riverwalk Cafe, 35 Railroad Sq., Nashua

Tickets: \$45

Visit: thefarmersdinner.com



In the kitchen during a previous Farmers Dinner pop-up. Matthew Lomanno photo.

will be "a bit more flair" with funkier music and fun vibes.

"I'm tired of the whole white tablecloth movement," Sarasin said. "We want food to be approachable and fun."

One big way pop-ups differ from the larger dinners is that they don't necessarily take place in a space that serves the evening's cuisine regularly.

"What we're doing is basically going in [and] taking over their kitchen and main room," Sarasin said of the Riverwalk Cafe, the host for the two-night taqueria pop-up. "We want people to see us dressing the tacos, and we're also going to have a staging kitchen in their kitchen."

Given the size limitations of Riverwalk's kitchen, some of the prep for the meal will be done elsewhere. The goal, however, is to have a very transparent food prep experience.

"When you look at old taquerias there are open counters ... lots of sights and smells go with it, and for us that was really important," Sarasin said.

The taqueria-themed pop-up was inspired

by his affinity for foods of different cultures, along with Alex Stupak's *Tacos: Recipes and Provocations*, which Sarasin considers the "bible of tacos."

"Alex Stupak really influenced a lot of my want to create amazing tacos, so when I thought about what we do from the Farmers Dinner, having access to pork and beef, why not bring those two together to do something that inspires people?" he said.

The taqueria menu focuses on authenticity and traditional Mexican cuisine, incorporating slow cooking processes, adobo spice, mezcal and the smoky flavors of a barbecue-style taco made possible with the help of chef, pit master and owner of Riverside Barbecue Dave Manganello. The menu will also feature a taco dish made using one of the coffees from Riverwalk Cafe.

In addition to food prepared by Sarasin and Manganello, diners will have the chance to enjoy the creative flavors from craft bartenders Patrick Andrew of Baldwin Bar in Woburn, Mass., and Jeremy Hart of Codex in Nashua. Guests can choose to add on a

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beer pairing, wine pairing or suggested small cocktails to accompany each course.

At other pop-ups Sarasin has been to, one of the consistently missing components he noticed was collaboration — he'd like to see seasoned chefs working alongside new-to-the-kitchen cooks.

"What I want to do is give chefs the ability to help create something on the menu ... and at the same point learn how to run a pop-up," he said. "I really want to give younger chefs the chance to work with seasoned veterans."

Future dinners

Though the pop-up dinners have earned a steady following and popularity, that doesn't mean the formal sit-down Farmers Dinners will become a style of the past.

"I think there is [appeal] for both," Sarasin said. "It's something that's appropriate

and sustainable for us. I think there is a place for these large dinners and definitely some of those [are planned] for us this year."

Coming up for The Farmers Dinner in 2016 are a number of smaller-scale pop-ups through May, then once early summer rolls around they're going to host large dinners like an outdoor event partnering with Chef Matt Provencher and The Foundry. While the details aren't sorted quite yet, Sarasin said they'd like to do another dinner with LaBelle Winery and also host a meal right on a local farm. Finally, expect to see Farmers Dinners held at more locations outside of Manchester and Nashua this year.

"I feel like we're really coming into our own as a company, waving the banner of all things local," Sarasin said. "So why not cast that net more and teach what it means to be a locavore in this area?"

New inn town

Henniker inn and restaurant welcomes new owners

By Allie Ginwala
aginwala@hippopress.com

Earlier this month, Colby Hill Inn (33 The Oaks St.) in Henniker changed hands after 15 years when Cyndi and Mason Cobb handed over the keys to new owners Jeff Brechbühl and Bruce Barnes. Brechbühl and Barnes sat down with the Hippo days after taking over the historic property to talk about what brought them from Washington, D.C., to New England, their vision for the inn and new restaurant and the mutually beneficial relationship they hope to establish with the town of Henniker.

Why NH?

"We wanted to find a location that was within an arm's reach of a major population," said Barnes, chef-proprietor, who most recently was senior executive chef at the World Bank in D.C., where he oversaw daily food service to more than 6,000 guests. "We're literally an hour and 30 minutes from Boston, we're four hours from New York, 25 minutes from Concord and 40 minutes from Manchester. There is the population out there and there's people that we can make a draw to."

"Our goal is to become a dining destination," Brechbühl added.

He owned a health food and catering business in D.C. for over seven years and has experience in nonprofit work and community outreach.

"We both kind of just up and left our jobs and kind of just took a leap of faith. ... This property, it has everything that we were looking for and I think Henniker has a lot of potential," Barnes said. "There is a lot going on around here within arm's reach and we're hoping that we can bring business to Henniker."

Introducing The Grazing Room

Finding a property with a restaurant was essential for Brechbühl and Barnes, who have already started to revamp the food and presentation at The Grazing Room, the newly minted restaurant at Colby Hill Inn.

The concept for The Grazing Room is to use locally sourced products in globally influenced dishes, inspired in part by Barnes' time at the World Bank.

"[At] the World Bank there's 186 member nations, 186 ways of cooking things, so I was really exposed to a lot of different cooking techniques and authentic cooking techniques and that's kind of what we're bringing here," he said.

He wants to home in on the farm-to-table movement, supporting local businesses and farmers primarily in New Hampshire, but generally within a 150-mile radius that may include Vermont, Maine and Massachusetts.

Nestling global cuisine into a quintessential New England inn setting isn't without its challenges, like finding ingredients that suit his penchant for cooking with Asian influences. However, when it comes to the basic building blocks of a dish, he's covered by local hen eggs, duck eggs, pork, fish and grass-fed Black Angus.

"The basics I have, so we'll be [figuring 40 ▶

Coming up at Colby Hill Inn and The Grazing Room

Feb. 21 Sunday suppers begin, offering a three-course meal for \$19.95
March 27 On Easter, Sunday brunches open to the public
April 22 On Earth Day, The Grazing Room is formally launched
May 20 Check out a wedding murder mystery weekend



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Innkeeper Jeff Brechbühl and chef Bruce Barnes stand on the porch at Colby Hill Inn and The Grazing Room in Henniker. Allie Ginzwa photo.

◀39 out], how can I run the basics and do my Moroccan spiced [dish]?" he said.

The plan for The Grazing Room is to change the menus weekly — a chef tasting menu (with three- or five-course options) and tavern menu, which feature sections “graze,” “nibble,” “feast” and “indulge.” The idea is that one can share their plate or graze with their dining companions.

“The entree ... like a grilled lamb loin ... wouldn’t necessarily come with veg and starch,” Barnes said. “It would be a smaller focus on the protein with a complementary side.”

The two would also like to shake up the standard bed-and-breakfast buffet with a four-course, made-to-order meal that starts off with locally brewed coffee, fresh squeezed juice and a basket of their signature goat cheese and black pepper biscuits.

“We’re trying to implement more vegetable and vegetable protein into the breakfast as well so you’ll still get your local maple pork sausage, but you might also be getting a brown rice and cardamom porridge,” Barnes said.

The breakfast will conclude with a sweet ending that could be anything from a mini waffle or mini crepe with nutella ricotta to mini blinis or a mini maple pancake.

“We don’t want to position [ourselves] as a place you only go once a year, but some place you want to come to and see what’s happening,” Brechbühl said.

In terms of the physical space, the dining room will have an updated yet rustic feel with reclaimed wood tabletops. The dining

experience will expand its presence on the property as a whole with the installation of a culinary garden, outdoor eating options and a barn renovation.

“One of the things that kills me is Henniker is such a great location,” Barnes said. “There’s a need for food here and there’s not a lot of options ... it’s like, we have this great space, how can we get the local people involved and bring them here?”

Inside the inn

Changes to the inn will mostly be done in the form of upgrades and creating a cohesive theme. One motif will be goats — both in the artwork and with live goats frolicking about the outside property.

They plan to redo the upstairs floors, upgrade the beds, mattress and pillows, expand and redo some of the bathrooms and undergo a general technology upgrade, hopefully completing everything by the start of the summer season.

“We’re also enhancing guest services,” Brechbühl said, like putting Granite State Candy Shoppe chocolate truffles in each room and offering a coffee service using Keene’s Terra Nova Organic Coffee Roasters at the end of each floor hallway in the mornings.

“Just simple little nuances, little touches,” Barnes added. “We really want to ... I don’t want to say help Henniker, but we really want to work with them and make it our home for quite some time.”

“We want it to be a mutually beneficial relationship,” Brechbühl said. 🍷

Food

Fairs/festivals/expos

• CHOCOLATE FESTIVAL

Trailside chocolate shops offer treats, plus other businesses offer chocolate specialties throughout Mt. Washington Valley. Sun., Feb. 28, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Mt. Washington Valley Ski & Snowshoe Foundation, 279 Route 16-302, Intervale. Tickets cost \$30 in advance, \$35 the day of. See mwvskitouring.org.

Special meals

• MURDER MYSTERY DINNER

Four course dinner and cash bar. Sat., Feb. 20, at 6 p.m. The Common Man Inn & Spa, 231 Main St., Plymouth. Tickets cost \$50 per person. See thecman.com.

Workshops

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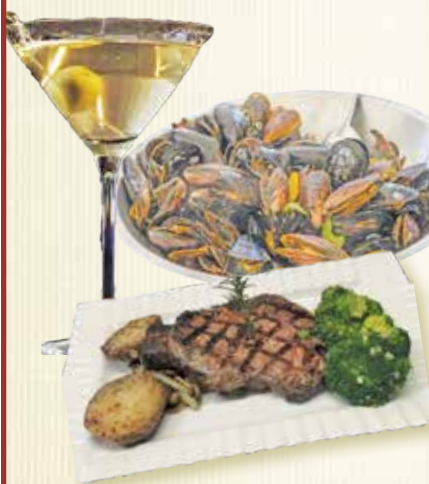
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FOOD

Beer for days

Head to Portsmouth for 10 days of local brews

By Allie Ginwala
aginwala@hippopress.com

For 10 days each February, Portsmouth — a hub for microbreweries in the state — invites the area's brewers, chefs and beer enthusiasts to enjoy back-to-back days filled with everything from tastings and beer brunches to movie screenings and bar crawls.

Sean Jansen, co-founder of Portsmouth Beer Week and 2BeerGuys.com, a site dedicated to craft beer education, said in a recent phone interview that the now seventh annual Portsmouth Beer Week was inspired by an event at the Portsmouth Brewery that he went to just under a decade ago. It revolved around Kate the Great, a Russian imperial stout the brewery used to make. Seeing how many people were drawn in by this one-day event, Jansen realized the then-untapped potential of Portsmouth's craft beer scene.

"We really wanted to showcase what Portsmouth had to offer ... the diversity it had to offer," he said.

He and his brother penned a page-long letter and pitched it to 10 locations.

"At that point 2 Beer Guys for us was not that old, we didn't know the players in Portsmouth and we worked in different industries," he said. "We went around and pitched the idea and said, 'Hey, this is what we want to do.'"

With three interested takers, they hosted their first beer, pizza and a movie night upstairs at Portsmouth Gas Light Co. Build-

Portsmouth Beer Week

When: Saturday, Feb. 20, to Monday, Feb. 29

Where: Various locations throughout Portsmouth

Visit: portsmouthbeerweek.com

ing on it each year, now they have over 50 different events taking place throughout the week, which always concludes on a Monday in honor of the Portsmouth Brewery and Kate the Great.

Due to a fire at Portsmouth Gas Light Co. late last year, the fifth annual Seacoast Winter Brewfest, a premier event that Jansen equated to a "mini extreme beer fest," was canceled. Though the Gas Light fire has also impacted plans for Portsmouth Beer Week, Jansen took it in stride, noting that this year they'll focus on a new showcase event — freshman orientation.

"The idea is that there are a bunch of breweries that started in 2015, so we're trying to get an opportunity where people can ... go from booth to booth and meet the people who are making [the brews] and try their beer," he said. "It's basically speed dating with brewers."

Inspired by a similar event at Portland's Beer Week, the class of 2015 breweries from across the state include Great North Aleworks in Manchester, Mooselick Brewing Company in Troy, Garrison City in Dover and Neighborhood Brewing Company in Exeter. Hosted by Throwback Brewery in North Hampton on Saturday, Feb. 20, attendees will get to meet the brewers, try samples of their beers and enjoy appetizers.

Also new this year is the Brewer's Pond Hockey Invitational on Wednesday, Feb. 24, at Labrie Family Skate at Strawberry Banke, where six breweries will play and guests can enjoy a beer social and snacks from Figtree Kitchen before the games begin.

For the full list of events throughout the week, go to the website, which will be continually updated. While the bigger events are typically held on the weekends, every day has at least two or three things to check out. 🍷

Weekly Dish

Continued from page 38

poached eggs.

• **Cooking up fun:** Two local libraries invite guests to explore the culinary side of books starting with Stephenson Memorial Library's (761 Forest Road, Greenfield) **cookbook challenge** on Thursday, Feb. 18, at 6:30 p.m. Following the library's successful first challenge, the second time around the focus is all about soup and bread. Check out one of the library's cookbooks and make your favorite recipe to share at the potluck. See facebook.com/StephensonMemorialGreenFIELD for more details. Head to Pelham Public Library (24 Village Green, Pelham) for **cookbook explorers**. This month's meetings on Wednesday, Feb. 24, at 12:30 and 6:30 p.m. center on Valentine's Day-inspired dishes. Those attend-

ing the daytime meeting will share a dish with a red ingredient in it while those attending the evening meeting will share a dish with chocolate. Event is free and open to the public. See pelhampubliclibrary.org.

• **Brew weekend:** IncrediBREW (112 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua) is serving up a weekend full of IPAs with four special brewing nights featuring the most popular varieties starting on Thursday, Feb. 18, at 6 p.m. when guests are invited to brew Teddy Hopper. The following brews are Zombie Lust on Friday, Feb. 19, at 6 p.m., Citra Pale Ale on Saturday, Feb. 20, at 2 p.m. and Hoptimist on Sunday, Feb. 21 at noon. Cost is \$30 per share for each of the nights, bottles not included. Visit incredbrew.com. 🍷

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FOOD



FROM THE PANTRY

Ideas from off the shelf

Honey-Sriracha chicken wings

With playoff parties and Super Bowl soirees finished, I thought it was time to leave appetizers and finger foods behind, until I found this recipe for honey-Sriracha chicken wings.

The sweet and spicy combination kicks this recipe into overdrive and is deceptively simple to make.

My husband is usually the go-to wing chef in our house, and he never follows a recipe. A few weeks ago my sister and a friend stopped over for dinner, and my husband whipped up wings in what seemed like minutes.

In less time than the wings took to season, they were gone, and the bones were picked clean.

Jealous of the praise my husband received for his last-minute meal, I decided to look for similarly simple recipes with pantry ingredients that would work well with poultry in a pinch.

This recipe for honey-Sriracha wings was ideal. I had all of the ingredients on hand, and am familiar enough with the different sauces and seasonings to use them more liberally. While this recipe is for wings coated with a sauce, I used a small amount to season the wings before baking, which amped up the flavor.

The sweetness of the honey made these wings hard to resist, and the Sriracha added a kick on the back end of every bite. Paired with starchy sides like roasted potatoes or asparagus, these wings made



an excellent meal. The soy sauce added an extra hint of salt, while the acid from the lime juice helped cut some of the heat and bring out the nuances of flavor.

The stickiness of the honey did make the wings a bit messy to eat, but the meal was worth the mess. The glaze-like sauce coated every inch of the wings, and even when it clung to the asparagus it was still delicious. The sauce would also work well on grilled veggies — and I'm cataloging it to drizzle over corn on the cob this summer.

I followed the recipe nearly exactly, until the last part when it suggested to drizzle more honey over the wings after they were tossed in the sauce. I skipped that step, not wanting to make the wings too sticky-sweet.

There was plenty of flavor without the extra honey, but my husband chose to make a dipping sauce with soy sauce and diced Thai chili peppers, to add more spice to each bite.

The result was delicious, and the recipe is definitely one I'll be using again. It received high praise from my husband, who is usually the toughest critic, and I'm excited to make the wings and sauce for when my sister visits again.

— Lauren Mifsud

Honey-Sriracha chicken wings

Courtesy of the Food Network

Wings

2 tablespoons vegetable oil, plus more for the pan
2 pounds chicken wings
2 tablespoons unsalted butter, melted
1 teaspoon garlic
Salt and ground pepper

Sauce

5 tablespoons unsalted butter
1 1/3 cup honey, plus more for drizzling
1/4 cup Sriracha (or any chili sauce)
1 tablespoon soy sauce
2 teaspoons fresh lime juice

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. Coat a large rimmed baking sheet with vegetable oil. In a small bowl, mix 2 tablespoons vegetable oil, the melted butter, garlic, 1 teaspoon salt and 1/2 teaspoon pepper. Pour the mixture over the wings and toss well to coat. Place the wings in a single layer on the baking sheet and bake until browned and crisp (about 45 to 55 minutes). Meanwhile, to make the sauce, melt butter in a small pot. Add the honey, Sriracha, soy sauce and lime juice and stir until the mixture bubbles gently. Remove from the heat and set aside. Once the wings are removed from the baking sheet, transfer to a large bowl. Pour the warm sauce over the wings and toss to coat. If desired, drizzle additional honey on top of wings before serving.

Spectacular wines

Top picks from Wine Week event

By Stefanie Phillips
food@hippopress.com

NH Wine Week 2016 has come and gone, along with one of New England's biggest and best wine events: the Easter Seals Winter Wine Spectacular. I had not attended in a few years, but this year was better than I remember. I formulated a plan and stuck to it for the most part, targeting the tables I knew I wanted to visit. Here is a round-up of some of the wines I tasted at the event. Many I would gladly purchase and drink again.

Angels' Share Shiraz: This was one of the first wines we tasted upon arriving at the event, so our palates had not been overwhelmed with other flavors. I typically like shiraz and found this one fairly pleasant as it is medium- to full-bodied with notes of blueberry and plum. It was a little dry on the finish for my taste, but pretty smooth overall.

Michael David Rapture: I had the chance to meet Michael Phillips of Michael David Winery in California. (He jokingly asked me if we were related, to which I said, "We are now!") The Rapture Cabernet "represents the very best Cabernet Sauvignon by Michael David Winery," according to their website. It is only produced on "exceptional vintage years" and come from Michael Phillips' own vineyard. So this wine is pretty special, and not cheap, but if you like cabernet, considering getting some for a special occasion. I'll also note that they offer a Rage Zinfandel as well. Choosing which wine to taste at this table was difficult. I also tasted the Freak Show Cabernet, which is around \$20 if you are looking for something a bit more affordable for everyday drinking.

Symmetry: At the Rodney Strong table, we tried the Symmetry Meritage Red Blend. This was another table where it was hard to choose, as they had some nice offerings. However, this wine was not a disappointment. It is rich and smooth, with nice characteristics from its makeup of cabernet sauvignon, merlot and other Bordeaux grapes. This wine is another one that I may not purchase for everyday sipping but would be worth the splurge, especially with a nice meal (recommended pairings are lamb roast, stew or barbecue tips).

Candia Vineyards ice wines: I have tried Bob's ice wines before, but I wanted to make a stop to try the Ice Storm and Black Ice. Plus, they are made right here in New Hampshire, whereas most ice wines come from Canada (I believe the only other local offering is an apple cider). I liked both a lot but would prob-



Photo by John Hession.

ably purchase the Ice Storm again. Both are dessert wines for sweet wine lovers. They are perfect pairings for dessert. I asked Bob what they were made with, but he said he could not divulge his recipes.

Dylan's Ghost Hell Hollow: At the Joseph Carr table, there were a lot of great wines. But I was intrigued by the Dylan's Ghost offerings: Hell Hollow Cabernet Sauvignon and Stag's Leap Ranch Vineyard Red. It turns out these wines were just released and even the rep at the table didn't know a lot about them, but did point out that they would probably be even better in a few years after aging. The wines in this series are small releases and naturally their price tags reflect this, but were not outrageous. I tried the Hell Hollow Cabernet Red Blend which is 60 percent cabernet sauvignon and 40 percent cabernet franc. This is the kind of wine you buy now, age and then enjoy in a couple years as it will get even better with time.

Robert Sinskey: This event can get busy and crowded, but we were lucky to be at the Robert Sinskey table during a quieter moment to meet Maria Sinskey from California. We tried a few wines and enjoyed them, but beyond that we liked hearing her stories about the wines and where they came from, as she and her husband are "vineyard to bottle" winemakers. A notable wine was their POV, or "point of view" wine that features Robert's art on the label and is made with whatever red grapes are best that year.

Catena Zapata Red Blend: While at an event like this, I figured we should go all out and try wines we have never had before, and may never buy due to their price tag (\$100+). You may never think such an awesome wine would come from Argentina. But move over Italy — this one is pretty great. This red blend is big and bold, lush and smooth. This Bordeaux-style red blend can be aged for years or paired with a rib-eye steak. 🍷

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Chairlift, *Moth* (Columbia Records)



The wildly expansive array of sounds used in the polyrhythms of this Brooklyn duo's *Something* album two years ago wasn't merely encouraging; it made you believe that the big huge record companies were finally grasping the whole shift to laptop indie. Their first LP, 2008's *Does You Inspire You*, does seem a little primitive in comparison despite the high-end songwriting chops of singer Caroline Polachek (she wrote Beyonce's "No Angel"), even if, sure, the roots — trip-hop mingling with 1980s pop and an outsider's appreciation for gacked-up megaphone skronk — were evident. *Moth*, the pair's third full-length, wants to cover a lot of bases. It's full of good stuff, including but not limited to pan hip-hop chill ("Polymorphing"), quirky cybernetic tribalism ("Look Up") and dubstep-leaning snap-dance (the utterly captivating "Romeo"). It's got a bit of ADD as far as overall focus, and not just in terms of the beats, which can get overly weird. Polachek's voice wants to be a dream-diva Lana Del Rey in some spots, a Dido wallflower in others, basic Ke\$ha bubblegummer in still others — but this is her in off-the-clock mode, meaning it's personal, meaning you'll likely take most of it and leave the rest, which is fine. **A** — *Eric W. Saeger*

La Sera, *Music For Listening to Music To* (Polyvinyl Records)



Essentially, La Sera is former Vivian Girls bassist Katy Goodman, now on her fourth LP's worth of trying to get a fix on her ideal dream-pop sound. Her first three records consisted of Goodman writing and fronting the band, aided by a couple of different producers. Her second album, 2012's *Sees the Light*, saw her flirting with a beach-cowboy vibe — Indigo Girls meets Pains of Being Pure at Heart, let's say — then moving in a more noisy direction with 2014's *Hour of the Dawn*, which was basically Dum Dum Girls on zombie serum during its best parts. Back to the now, it looks like her country/folkie side won out for this album, first thanks to Ryan Adams taking the producer role, and second because it's songwriter-centric, almost KT Tunstall-like in opener "High Notes." Meanwhile, if you'd paid the slightest bit of attention to her earlier stuff, you couldn't help but hear some Aimee Mann in there, which is capitalized on here by Adams. This all works nicely as a slacker-country bauble, even when Goodman's new cohort/husband Todd Wisenbaker takes the microphone ("One True Love" is the slightly nervous baritone yin to her moonbat yan). **A** — *Eric W. Saeger*

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• Baltimore hipsters **Animal Collective** were kind of popular for a while, remember that? Yep, I remember their album *Merriweather Post Pavilion* like it was yesterday, way back in 2009. Back then we would have to walk 5 miles to the bus, and the bus would drop us off 6 miles away from school, and occasionally we'd get an apple or "rock candy" from the friendly grocery man. Then progress came, and suddenly Animal Collective realized they actually sucked, so they put out the jumbled mess that was the LP *Centipede Hz* and decent critics — you know, smart, Christopher Hitchens-type, actual journalists — spat on that album, then flicked cigarettes at it. Time passed, man invented things like fire and the Android operating system, and here we are today, with a new Animal Collective album, called *Painting With*. Is it a jumbled mess that needs to be spat on, again? Let's go listen to the lead single, "FloriDada," and get grounded in this century. OK, bad start: the video warns that you'll barf if you're sensitive to flashing images and whatnot. The song itself uses a Vampire Weekend polyrhythm, and parts of it are good, but other parts aren't. So, they've decided to say to the world, "Yes, we agree, we suck, it's a jumbled mess again, surprise, thanks so much for your support."

• Surely all you Skrillex-hip-hop kids remember **Wolfmother's** album from a few years ago, when your dad was all like, "When I was your age, we listened to stuff like *this!*" and in response, you said something like "Hmm, sounds like Led Zeppelin, if Led Zeppelin sucked." Right, it was old-school hard rock, but really contrived and boring — of course you remember, of course you do. OK, so the problem is, they have a new album coming out called *Victorious*; let's go and see just how bad this is. "City Lights," the single, demonstrates an updated sound for this band; it's sort of like Bruno Mars trying to sound like Muse. This is a good thing, since old people abandoned this band after they'd made their brief point about "the good old days," and the kids went back to listening to random music — anything but Wolfmother.

• Back in 2007, I should have gotten a bumper sticker reading "I SURVIVED LISTENING TO YOKO ONO'S *YES I'M A WITCH*," the vanity album put out by Apple in which poor unfortunate artists had to cover old Yoko Ono songs. All I remember is that Peaches re-did "Kiss Kiss Kiss" and Le Tigre made a not completely ineffectual version of "Sisters, O Sisters." The PR guy who promoted that album actually built a business out of all the money Yoko paid him, which is good for him, but I was on his list, which was bad for me. Which brings us to the point, namely that *Yes I'm a Witch Too* is heading out to the stores. More bands covering Yoko songs. As for me, like Chief Brody said in *Jaws II*, "I'm not going through that hell again!"

• We could talk about the upcoming new **Rick Springfield** album *Rocket Science*, but seriously, come on, so let's spend these last sentences investigating Danish weird-beard band **Choir of Young Believers** and his new *Grasque* LP. Hmm, this is all in Dutch. The song "Jeg Ser Dig" is like Bon Iver doing a Sade B-side. Not bad, whatever it means. — *Eric W. Saeger*

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Flash fiction season

Writers' Project gears up for Three Minute Fiction Slam

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

Writers come out of the woodwork for the now-annual Three Minute Fiction Slam, hosted by the New Hampshire Writers' Project.

John Herman, who spearheads and organizes the statewide competition, said you get a range of people onstage, high schoolers to senior citizens, who come in with a variety of writing and life experiences. At the time of this phone interview, he'd just come off hosting a Newmarket semi-final match, which was crowded with people, even in the midst of a snowstorm. It also had a substantial waiting list, which prompted Herman to plan another Seacoast event, at the Portsmouth Book & Bar March 7.

"I showed up early. I expected a couple people," Herman said. "But we got a full roster of writers. ... Some people have published stories, some people haven't. The competitors represent such a range of New Hampshire writers." The winner, Herman said, was a Scottish meditation leader who had the room in full laughter during his performance.

"The audience really knows when someone's done it. It's quite hard to pull off — to have a story that's satisfying and entertaining and memorable in just three minutes," Herman said.

The Three Minute Fiction Slam has become a staple in the New Hampshire writing community, and throughout the next two months, there are a variety of semifinial events in schools, bars and public places, full of writers taking a stab at the flash fiction genre.

Organizers say it's like literary *American Idol*. The only rule: Your piece must be read aloud in three minutes, which is about 600 words. Three judges will critique writers decide a winner.

Those semifinal winners will compete for the title at the final, held at the New Hampshire Institute of Art the first week of April, for a cash prize, free ticket to Writers' Day and chance to read the piece during lunchtime at Writers' Day.

It used to be that winners were chosen by "applause-o-meters," and that if you went over the time limit you were squirted with tiny water pistols, but Herman said the NHWP has moved away from that as peo-

ple have become more serious about it. He'd love to get more libraries involved to draw another class of writer, but the challenge is finding potential organizers in communities farther out. At the time of the call, he was trying to set up more semifinal contests, as many as possible before the final, because there's a lot of value even if you don't win.

"[The judges] are professionals, and they give the writer instant feedback, which a lot of writers never get," Herman said.

NHIA writing faculty member Monica Bilson said she's seeing more community turnout at the school's semifinal event — this year's is March 3.

"The first year [NHIA] did semifinals, it was just NHIA students. Last year especially we got more people from the community to compete," Bilson said via phone. "And every year, for the state finals, there's a really good crowd. The French auditorium fills up."

Bilson said the flash fiction genre has grown in popularity in the last 10 or 20 years, perhaps because of the number of online forums available now; she pointed to Brevity, an online journal of "concise, literary nonfiction." She doesn't mind.

"From a teacher's standpoint, we love to teach flash fiction because it makes students pay attention to every word choice, and exactly how their plots are paced. Every word is on trial for its life," Bilson said.

Some tips for prospective writers? Play with structure. Bilson pointed to Ed Ting's piece two years ago, which was told through a marinara recipe. Another piece by a former student told a tale backward in time.

"Typically, flash pieces don't follow your traditional plot — beginning, middle, end," Bilson said. "And there's usually a little epiphany that happens. ... The biggest mistake readers make is that they read too quickly and not loud enough."

She said she likes the opportunity the competition provides writers.

"People are coming out of the woodwork," Bilson said. "It's another outlet for New Hampshire writers to be heard."

Three-Minute Fiction Slam

New Hampshire Institute of Art: 148 Concord St., Manchester, Thursday, March 3, at 7:30 p.m.

Portsmouth Book & Bar: 40 Pleasant St., Portsmouth, Monday, March 7, at 7 p.m.

Final: Tuesday, April 5

“The competitors represent such a range of New Hampshire writers.”

JOHN HERMAN

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 by Diane Les Becquets
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It is the last day of elk hunting season and Amy Latour is determined to fill her tag. When Amy doesn't return to camp, ranger Pru Hathaway and her dog respond to the missing person call. Told in alternating threads, Amy finds herself on the precarious edge she's flirted with her whole life. Meanwhile Pru pursues her against all odds, believing she can find her. Meet Diane in MILFORD Thu, Feb. 25th at 6:30!

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My Father the Pornographer
 by Chris Offutt
 (Atria, Our Price \$20.80)

When his father dies, Chris inherited a desk, a rifle, and eighteen hundred pounds of pornographic fiction. This is an unflinchingly beautiful look at his family, its secrets, and the psychic burden one generation unknowingly passes on to the next. *A staff favorite.*




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POP CULTURE BOOKS

Living With a SEAL – 31 Days Training with the Toughest Guy on the Planet, by Jesse Itzler (Center Street, about 251 pages)

Jesse Itzler is a cool guy. He was on MTV. He had a record company and now owns a transportation company. His wife is beautiful. He lives in a New York apartment building where he shares the community gym with Bob Costas and some woman from TV — he thinks she's a real estate mogul or something, but doesn't remember her name. And, oh, yeah, Sting lives in his building. Sting.

Itzler works out. He runs marathons. He's got a gorgeous house in Connecticut, and he eats nothing but fruit until noon. In short, this guy leads a pretty charmed and privileged life.

But when he sees a "monster" run a 24-hour race solo (everyone else ran it in teams where you got to rest while a partner ran), Itzler decides he wants more. He wants the determination and focus of that guy, who, as it turns out, is a Navy SEAL. So he arranges for the guy to stay with him and live in their apartment with his wife and toddler for 31 days of Navy SEAL training.

What follows is a captivating story of guts and determination clashing with rich-boy softness. It's a story that once started simply can't be put down. Itzler's voice is clear, and his personal assessments of his weaknesses are honest and brutally accurate.

Is this the best-written book I've ever read? In a nutshell, no, it's not. There's some repetition, in a few places it feels like the editor must have fallen asleep, and it is extremely dialogue-heavy. But the story line carries the book. Itzler does not put up pretenses — whatever skill or prowess or even manliness he thought he had before SEAL (as he's called throughout the book) arrived is quickly put aside. SEAL knows that just like in the military, Itzler needs to be broken before he



can be built back up.

The first day SEAL takes him to the gym, they start off with pull-ups. Itzler does an impressive 17 pull-ups, the most he's ever done in his life. But SEAL won't let him leave the gym until he does 100. Every time he stops the pull-ups he has to run a lap before attempting another one.

Very soon, he finds he can only do one pull-up at a time. Itzler complains, but he's asked for this, so he complies. After 90 minutes he's done 100 pull-ups and has run 6 miles. Training has begun.

This is an enjoyable book on many levels. It's funny and inspiring and gives insight into the privileged lifestyle, as well as showing how one can live a life of determined austerity. Language alert: the SEAL is a real SEAL and his language is, at times, very salty. But that language is also genuine and is consistent with his character. After a few pages, you would be surprised if his language were mild — you'd wonder what happened to him.

The point of a memoir is to tell us how the events have changed the author's life. This could have been a book about simply getting stronger and coming in first in the next race. But it's more than that. After the SEAL leaves, Itzler realizes that he's been taught much more than gym routines: He's learned about his priorities, making excuses, determination and even time management. At the end we also find out something about SEAL that makes his absolute determination and bullheadedness that much more understandable. It endears us to this monster forever.

It's the sign of a good story when it stays with you after you've put the book down. *Living with a SEAL* will stay with you for a very long time. And it will inspire you to live, at least in part, like a Navy SEAL. When I finished this book, I went to the gym. **B**

— Wendy E.N. Thomas

CHILDREN'S ROOM

A weekly recommendation from the Concord Public Library

Escape from Baxters' Barn

Written and illustrated by Rebecca Bond, 2015

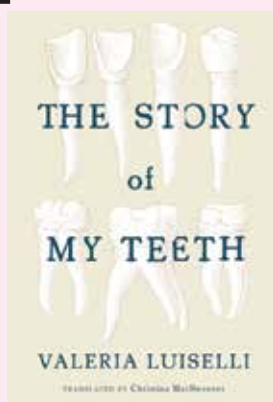
(Fiction, ages 7-10)



When the gentle beasts living at the Baxters' run-down farm learned of their farmer's plan to burn down the barn for insurance money, they knew they had to act quickly. They learned to rely not only upon themselves but, more important, upon each other to survive. The story has a bit of a *Charlotte's Web* feel to it and concludes with a happy, and very satisfying, ending.

Book Report

• **Dental stories:** As part of its Visiting Writers Series, the New Hampshire Institute of Art hosts its next speaker, Valeria Luiselli, who will offer a reading and answer questions about her work, including her latest book, *The Story of My Teeth*, Thursday, Feb. 25, at 7 p.m., at the school's French Building Rotunda, 148 Concord St., Manchester. Her new book won the Los Angeles Times Book Prize for first fiction, and it focuses on an auctioneer who auctions off the teeth of famous writers and thinkers, from Plato to Virginia Woolf. According to the press release, it was written with workers of Grupo Jumex, a juice factory in Mexico, originally commissioned as part of the catalogue for an exhibition at Museo Jumex, a contemporary art gallery. She's also the author of a book of essays, *Sidewalks*, and the internationally acclaimed novel *Faces in the Crowd*. Her work has appeared in the New York Times, Granta, McSweeney's and The New Yorker. She also received the National Book Founda-



tion's 5 under 35 award in 2014.

• **Scholarship for young writers:** The New Hampshire Writers' Project presents the Charley Allen Faulk Memorial Scholarship for 2016, \$1,000 to go toward "book money" for the following academic year, and winners will also receive a four-year membership to the New Hampshire Writers' Project. Applicants should be high school seniors attending a New Hampshire school, entering an accredited two- or four-year college full-time and have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher. They should provide a 500-word (or less) response to the following prompt: Write about a book that changed your life and how it did so. Email full name, address, phone number, email address, PDF of high school transcript and essay answer to scholarship@nhwritersproject.org by March 1. The winner will be announced May 1. Visit nhwritersproject.org.

— Kelly Sennott

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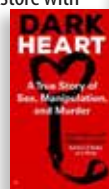
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Deadpool (R)

Ryan Reynolds finally nails the whole action star/superhero thing in *Deadpool*, a way better *X-Men* spinoff than those *Wolverine* movies.

And I'm not just saying that because the movie makes fun of both *Wolverine* and previous Ryan Reynolds superhero movies.

Forgive me if I mess up some bit of canonical comic book plot but, according to this movie: Wade Wilson (Ryan Reynolds) is an ex-soldier who, in the movie's earliest scenes chronologically, is now a muscle-for-hire type. But then he meets Vanessa (Morena Baccarin), a lady of the evening whose warped sense of humor is a perfect match for his. After a whirlwind romance, he proposes and she says yes and then he passes out. Turns out, it's cancer. All the cancer. And medical science can offer him no hope.

Well, legitimate medical science.

A recruiter (Jed Rees) visits Wade to offer him a cure — better than a cure, really, since in addition to having his cancer fixed Wade would develop the abilities to become, well, super. At first, Wade turns the recruiter down with a brisk crudeness that would make *X-Men: First Class* *Wolverine* proud but then he decides why not and slips out of the apartment he shares with Vanessa to head to the superhero-manufacturing labs.

Except, of course, they don't make heroes there, as the lab's head Ajax/Francis (Ed Skrein) informs Wade, they make super slaves. Essentially, a special chemical plus lots of torture activates a mutant gene. The mutant power cures the cancer, at which point Ajax slaps a control collar on the newly minted mutant and they become muscle for whoever can pay the lab's price.

After a lot of torture, Wade's super strength and regenerative powers surface, but the process employed by the sadistic Ajax leaves him looking, as the line goes, like an avocado had a baby with an even older avocado. Wade frees himself from the lab and goes looking for Ajax, both in hopes that he can fix his appearance and to exact revenge. He gets a little help from old buddy Weasel (T.J. Miller), who helps Wade come up with the name *Deadpool* for his new, butt-kicking alter ego, and Al (Leslie Uggams), a blind lady who tells him to wear red to hide the blood and who takes him on as a roommate. Wade/*Deadpool*'s ultimate end game



Deadpool

is getting back to Vanessa and the happiness he briefly had with her.

My teenage stepson, who has been waiting for this movie for *years*, asked me if it was true that *Deadpool* breaks the fourth wall and talks to the audience. There is no fourth wall in this movie, I told him. With all the *People* magazine covers of Hugh Jackman and Ryan Reynolds and the jokes about whether this is set in McAvoy or Stewart timeline, *Deadpool* seems to take place in some meta-universe where the X-Men are both real and a popular film franchise. The opening credits perfectly set this tone, listing not the director and actors themselves but things like "the Hot Chick" and the British Villain and "God's Perfect Idiot" (in reference to Reynolds) and describes others in the cast with a cheery use of crude slang and swear words that I can't print but if ever there was a film worth showing up on time for, this is it. Wade constantly points out how a typical superhero would respond to some situation and then explains why he's doing the opposite. And, after some X-Men — Colossus (voice of Stefan Kapicic, facial performance of Greg LaSalle and motion-capture performance of Andre Tricoteux, according to Wikipedia) and Negasonic Teenage Warhead (Brianna Hildebrand) — join the adventure we get plenty of jokes about the X-Men, both the characters and the movies.

And swearing. So much swearing. The swearing in this movie is load-bearing, it is so dense and so thick. When you include the many gleefully crude comments and the Reynolds butt shots, this movie earns its R like few I've seen not involving war or Quentin Tarantino. The movie is so gra-

tuitous in its, well, everything — violence, language, sex, discussions of sex acts often as part of insults — I almost felt like it was daring me to say it's too much. And maybe it is. But as a comic book movie that feels like it was made for a specific kind of dude, I have to say, I didn't hate *Deadpool*. It was fun — irreverent, smirking, tickled with its own cleverness, dirty and fun. It was *Ant-Man*, if *Ant-Man* was basically a horrible jerk and everything he said was something that would get you written up by Pym Technologies' HR department.

Reynolds has found his lane. He is not Chris Pratt, he is not Robert Downey Jr., he is not Hugh Jackman. He is not playing Wade like an R-rated Magneto or a foul-mouthed Thor. He has made *Deadpool* his own character, a unique personality you can understand and get your arms around (in a way that Hal Jordan/Green Lantern never achieved). Though he's not repeating one of the aforementioned stand-out superhero performances, he does, like Pratt and Downey and Jackman did, create a fun character who mixes the superhero world with an audience surrogate response to the superhero world (plus a little bit of audience wish-fulfillment) and give us somebody we're willing to go on an adventure with.

An adventure or maybe even just an amusement park ride, which is possibly a good way of describing what *Deadpool* is. *Deadpool* isn't an important movie and it doesn't necessarily do anything new with the format, but it has a ridiculously good time taking you to all the places it knows you expect to go. **B+**

Rated R — like, seriously R, do not bring the kids — for strong violence and

AT THE MULTIPLEX

Coming soon

Feb. 18: *Race* (PG-13) The tale of Jesse Owens at the 1936 Olympics; *Risen* (PG-13) Joseph Fiennes is a Roman on the hunt for the body of post-crucifixion Jesus; *The Witch* (R) Colonial horror.

Reviewlets

Zoolander 2 (PG-13)

Ben Stiller, Owen Wilson. The male models return in this exceptionally stupid sequel (and I mean that as a compliment!) to a 2001 movie I

remember primarily for being a really jarring thing to watch some 10 days after a horrific national catastrophe. Derek and Hansel must fight not just another strange evil plot (this one full of *Temple of Doom*

and *Da Vinci Code* weirdness, plus Sting!) but also aging and irrelevancy. And perhaps also hipsters. If you are looking for extreme stupidity with moments of goofy zaniness, this is your movie. **C+**

language, nudity, sexual content and graphic nudity. Directed by Tim Miller and written by Rhett Reese and Paul Wernick, *Deadpool* is an hour and 48 minutes long and distributed by 20th Century Fox.

How to Be Single (R)

Attractive young people make whoopee with other attractive young people and some of them have complicated feelings about it in *How to Be Single*, a rom-com that occasionally pretends it's not just a rom-com.

Actually, most of their feelings and their situations are not that complicated. Eventually, the movie introduces us to David (Damon Wayans Jr.), a heartbroken widower raising a young daughter who yearns to know more about her late mother. That, my friends, is a complicated emotional situation. "Should I keep hanging out with a casual friend with benefits?" loses hands-down to "little girl with dead mother" even though the movie treats them as sort of equal.

Central character Alice (Dakota Johnson) kicks off her romantic complications by initiating a non-break-up break-up with her college boyfriend Josh (Nicholas Braun) and heading to New York City, official city of Finding Yourself. She gets a job and becomes buddies with wacky office-mate Robin (Rebel Wilson), who calls her "we're on a break" status "rumspringa" and sets out to help her learn "how to be single." This includes setting her up with good-time guy Tom (Anders Holm), owner of a popular bar who is all about keeping his romantic encounters breezy and commitment-free. As it happens, though, Tom is finding himself falling for Lucy (Alison Brie), a woman for whom Internet dating is not yielding the desired result of serious relationship.

Also not in a serious relationship is Meg (Leslie Mann), Alice's obstetrician sister who, despite her protests to the contrary, is ready to not just deliver other women's babies but have one of her own. While Alice learns how to look presentable after a night of partying, Meg considers in vitro fertilization and single motherhood.

As I said, some of the life-crossroads situations feel a little more serious than others.

This movie has a solid cast: Rebel Wilson (who I am going to keep believing in even when she's slumming it), Dakota Johnson (who was the MVP of the goofastic *Fifty Shades of Grey* but who earned my fandom with the short-lived TV show *Ben & Kate*), Damon Wayans Jr., Jake Lacy, Alison Brie and Leslie Mann. Trailers pitched this thing as a wacky Rebel Wilson comedy, like *The Hangover* for ladies which isn't a whole lot more promising than movie suggested by the opening scenes and dialogue about "figuring out who I am when I'm

single." I did, for the first, oh, third of this movie, think I was going to hate it. Not just hate but Hate — like, Hate Everything This Is and Stands For. (At the risk of being all "get off my lawn, you kids with your hair and your skateboards": We don't need any more conventionally attractive 20-somethings looking for love in New York City and sometimes Brooklyn. Not on TV or in movies. Can we agree to give it, like, at least seven years? Send the 20-somethings to Cleveland or Tulsa or West Covina to find themselves and their life partners? Let the field lie fallow?)

The movie reminded me a lot of such late-aughts self-conscious stabs at, I don't know, post-romantic-comedy comedies such as *He's Just Not That Into You* (which unsurprisingly, shares screenwriters Abby Kohn and Marc Silverstein and source material writer Liz Tuccillo with this movie). This movie's more gaah-some qualities shared a lot with the gaah-some qualities of those movies. Like that movie, this movie seems to want to play with the beats and ideas of the gold standard rom-coms (*When Harry Met Sally*, *Bridget Jones's Diary* and the like) but it doesn't seem to know quite what it wants to say.

But *How to Be Single*, uneven and shakily constructed as it is, has some interesting ideas. The movie actually ends up being a not just a movie about romance but also a look at the different kinds of relationships that can direct the course of someone's life. This includes — and, OK, feel free to gag — the relationship you have with yourself. Yeah, I know, that's a pretty blech sentiment and the movie does not artfully explore this idea. But I give it credit for at least having the idea and for not undercutting it for the comfort of a traditional happy ending.

And points to any movie being this philosophical about romance on Valentine's Day weekend.

How to Be Single has some not-bad ideas and a solid cast. It does not have the spark or bounce that a movie like this needs to elevate itself from the cliched nature of the genre. This could have come from the cast, which is full of people who know from bounce and spark and energy. All of these actors have turned potentially flat characters into quirky, dimensional people in other productions. Here, all of the main actors to some degree can't get out from under the weight of the leaden dialogue.

How to Be Single isn't as bad as it appears but it's not nearly as smart or funny as it could have been. **C+**

Rated R for sexual content and strong language throughout. Directed by Christian Ditter with a screenplay by Abby Kohn & Marc Silverstein and Dana Fox (from a book by Liz Tuccillo), How to Be Single is an hour and 50 minutes long and distributed by Warner Brothers. 🍷



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MOVIES OUTSIDE THE CINEPLEX

RED RIVER THEATRES

11 S. Main St., Concord, 224-4600, redrivertheatres.org

• **2016 Oscar-nominated Shorts: Live Action** (NR, 2015) Thurs., Feb. 18, at 2:10 p.m.

• **2016 Oscar-nominated shorts: Documentary** (NR, 2015) Thurs., Feb. 18, at 6 p.m.
• **45 Years** (R, 2015) Thurs., Feb. 18, at 2:05, 5:30 & 7:45 p.m.; Fri., Feb. 19, at 1, 2:50, 4:40 & 8:45 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 20, at 2:25 & 7:30 p.m.; Sun., Feb. 21, at 1:45 & 6:05 p.m.; Mon., Feb. 22, at 2:10, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m.; Tues., Feb. 23, at 2:10, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m.; Wed., Feb. 24, at 2:10, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m.; Thurs., Feb. 25, at 2:10, 5:30 & 7:30 p.m.

• **Spotlight** (R, 2015) Thurs., Feb. 18, at 7:50 p.m.; Fri., Feb. 19, at 3:15 & 8:30 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 20, at 3:15 & 8:30 p.m.; Sun., Feb. 21, at 3:15 p.m.; Mon., Feb. 22, at 7:50 p.m.; Tues., Feb. 23, at 7:50 p.m.; Wed., Feb. 24, at 7:50 p.m.; Thurs., Feb. 25, at 7:50 p.m.

• **Brooklyn** (PG-13, 2015) Thurs., Feb. 18, at 2 & 5:25 p.m.; Fri., Feb. 19, at 12:45 & 6 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 20, at 12:45 & 6 p.m.; Sun., Feb. 21, at 12:45 & 6 p.m.; Mon., Feb. 22, at 2 & 5:25 p.m.; Tues., Feb. 23, at 2 & 5:25 p.m.; Wed., Feb. 24, at 2 & 5:25 p.m.; Thurs., Feb. 25, at 2 & 5:25 p.m.

• **The Lady and the Van** (PG-13, 2015) Fri., Feb. 19, at 1:25, 3:45, 6:15 & 8:35 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 20, at 1:25, 3:45, 6:15 & 8:35 p.m.; Sun., Feb. 21, at 1:25, 3:45 & 6:15 p.m.; Mon., Feb. 22, at 2:05, 5:35 & 8 p.m.; Tues., Feb. 23, at 2:05, 5:35 & 8 p.m.; Wed., Feb. 24, at 2:05, 5:35 & 8 p.m.; Thurs., Feb. 25, at 2:05, 5:35 & 8 p.m.

• **The Kiss** (1929) Fri., Feb. 19, at 7 p.m.

• **Station West** (NR, 1948) Sun., Feb. 21, at 4 p.m.

WILTON TOWN HALL

40 Main St., Wilton, 654-3456, wiltontownhalltheatre.com

• **2016 Oscar-nominated Shorts: Live Action & Animated** (NR, 2015) Thurs., Feb. 18, at 7:30 p.m.

• **Spotlight** (R, 2015) Thurs., Feb. 18, through Thurs., Feb. 25, at 7:30 p.m. Additional screen-

ing Sun., Feb. 21, at 2 p.m.

• **45 Years** (R, 2015) Fri., Feb. 19, through Thurs., Feb. 25, at 7:30 p.m. Additional screenings Sun., Feb. 21, at 2 & 4:30 p.m.

• **The Breakfast Club** (1985) Sat., Feb. 20, at 4:30 p.m., free admission, donations to charity

CURRIER MUSEUM OF ART

150 Ash St., Manchester

• **The September Issue** (PG-13, 2009) Thurs., Feb. 18, at 6:30 p.m., free with museum admission, \$8 special exhibition charge to also view new show, "Killer Heels"

MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY

405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us

• **WALL-E** (G, 2008) Fri., Feb. 19, at 3 p.m.

• **The Lego Movie** (PG, 2014) Wed., Feb. 24, at 1 p.m.

• **Pixels** (PG-13, 2015) Fri., Feb. 26, at 3 p.m.

NEW HAMPSHIRE TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

31 College Drive, Sweeney Auditorium, 03301, 271-6484, ext. 4115, nhti.edu, nhstudent-film.com

• **The New Rijksmuseum: The Film** (NR, 2014) Fri., Feb. 19, at 7 p.m.

CONCORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

45 Green St., Concord, onconcord.com/library, 225-9670, call 230-3682 for titles

• **Family film** Wed., Feb. 24, at 2 p.m.

• **Mockingjay, Part 1** (PG-13, 2014) Thurs., Feb. 25, at 2 p.m.

NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY

NPL Theater, 2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4611, nashualibrary.org. Call 589-4646 for a movie schedule.

• **Ramona and Beezus** (G, 2010) Sat., Feb. 20, at 2 p.m.

• **Steve Jobs** (R, 2015) Tues., Feb. 23, at 7 p.m.

• **Ant-Man** (PG-13, 2015) Thurs., Feb. 25, at 2 p.m.

• **Inside Out** (PG, 2015) Fri., Feb. 26, at 2 p.m.

HOLLIS SOCIAL LIBRARY

2 Monument Square, Hollis, register at hollislibrary.org, 465-7721

• **Frozen** (PG, 2013) Sat., Feb. 20, 2:30-4:15 p.m.

PETERBOROUGH PLAYERS THEATER

55 Hadley Road, Peterborough, 924-9344, peterboroughplayers.org, showings of The MET: Live in HD, National Theatre Live

• **As You Like It** (National Theatre Live) Sun., Feb. 28, at 1 p.m.

PETERBOROUGH COMMUNITY THEATRE

6 School St., Peterborough, pct-movies.com

• **Free Movie Trailers** Tues., Feb. 23, 6:30-7 p.m.

THE MUSIC HALL

28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusichall.org.

Some films are screened at Music Hall Loft, 131 Congress St., Portsmouth

• **Oscar-nominated Shorts: Live Action** Thurs., Feb. 18, at 7 p.m.

• **Chi-raq** (R, 2015) Thurs., Feb. 18, at 7 p.m.

• **Where to Invade Next** (R, 2015) Fri., Feb. 19, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 20, at noon and 7 p.m.; Tues., Feb. 23, at 7 p.m.; Thurs., Feb. 25, at 7 p.m.; Fri., Feb. 26, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Feb. 27, at noon; Tues., March 1, at 7 p.m.; Wed., March 2, at 7 p.m.; Thurs., March 3, at 7 p.m.

• **The Flying Monkey** 39 S. Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com

• **The Navigator** (1924) Thurs., March 10, at 6:30 p.m., silent film with musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis

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THE ROUND UP

Local music news & events

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Change up:** A venue known for five nights a week of blues and rock unplugs as **Jon Ross** brings bluegrass to the 'Brew. The multi-instrumentalist is a member of the storied New England Bluegrass Band and is often called "a musicians' musician" by his Seacoast cohorts. Go Thursday, Feb. 18, 8 p.m. at Strange Brew Tavern, 88 Market St., Manchester. See strangebrewtavern.net.

• **Listen in:** The monthly **Six Strings, Three Chords** series hosted by Tristan Omand continues with guest Holly Furlone, a Granite State singer/songwriter and member of acoustic roots trio The Midweeklings. If songs like "So Much Universe" are an indication, Furlone's solo stuff is also pretty good, too. The hopeful tune has an Anais Mitchell vibe. See it Friday, Feb. 19, 7:30 p.m., at New England College Listening Room, 62 N. Main St., Concord (715-2306).

• **Prog rocking:** After seemingly a lifetime of work, **Mindset X** released the concept album *Oceans* in 2015. The progressive rock gem stands with Porcupine Tree, Dream Syndicate and other masters of the craft. While front man Steven Haidaichuk stays busy playing solo as The Deviant, full band shows are less frequent. An unplugged set from Fire in the Field starts thing off. Go Saturday, Feb. 20, 8 p.m. at Chen Yang Li, 520 South St., Bow. See facebook.com/mindsetx.

• **Blues power:** The list of awards won by **Marcia Ball** likely outnumbers the keys on her piano. Ball's mix of zydeco, R&B and straight ahead blues is headier than a New Orleans Hurricane served in a jumbo SOLO® cup. Go Sunday, Feb. 21, 7 p.m., at Tupelo Music Hall, 2 Young Road, Londonderry. Tickets are \$30-\$45 at tupelohall.com.

Want more ideas for a fun night out? Check out **Hippo Scout**, available via the Apple App Store, Google Play and online at hipposcout.com.

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NITE String thing

North Carolina's Mipso comes to town

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

Even in a world brimming over with clever placement, playing bluegrass during a nationally televised parade is an inventive way for a band to gain exposure. That happened when the four members of Mipso rolled down the streets of New York City on a float sponsored by KFC, playing the upbeat old-time song "Bad Penny" during the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

"For a folk band used to driving itself around the country in a minivan, a morning getting paraded around Manhattan 20 feet above the ground on a rolling bucket of chicken in front of three million parade-goers sticks out a little bit," band member Jacob Sharp wrote in a text exchange. "It wasn't on our agenda, they just reached out ... a lot of new people heard the band and have seen us at shows since, so that's amazing."

Mipso follows in the footsteps of Americana trailblazers Gram Parsons and Harvest-era Neil Young, while keeping company with contemporaries like Nickel Creek, Milk Carton Kids and Sarah Jarosz. The band includes Sharp playing mandolin, guitarist Joseph Terrell, Ward Robinson on upright bass and fiddler Libby Rodenbough.

Their musical interplay is superb, but it's the harmonies that grab at first listen — smooth as honey-sweetened butter stirred with a cinnamon stick. On the band's latest release, *Old Time Reverie*, modern accents — electric piano, Hammond B3 organ — are subtly stitched into a traditional sound.

Mipso

When: Thursday, Feb. 18, 7:30 p.m.

Where: Dana Center, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester

Tickets: \$28.75 at tickets.anselm.edu
Opening for Ten Strings and a Goat Skin



Courtesy photo.

Mipso came together organically in 2010 at UNC Chapel Hill, Sharp said in a recent phone interview.

"None of us were in a band before," he said. "We had different levels of a musical background, but none of us were studying it; it was just this joyful project that we were doing on the side of our studies."

It began as a trio of Sharp, Terrell and Robinson; Rodenbough joined a year later. Working near the Piedmont Triangle region of North Carolina provided Mipso with a deep well of musical inspiration, according to Sharp.

"We have a lot to pull from, both from people that have come before us and a very vibrant scene happening right now as well," he said, noting the diverse range of bands the region's spawned, from Superchunk to Whiskeytown. "I think being in this area encouraged us to be aware of our roots but not be tied to them and let us fly a little bit more than maybe we would have in other places."

The band's first three records, *Mipso Trio* (2011), *Long, Long Gone* (2012) and *Dark Holler Pop* (2013), were primarily bluegrass affairs. Last fall, the new album debuted at the top of the Billboard bluegrass charts, but Sharp

doesn't think the genre should define them.

"A more modern take on country influences ... is where we are coming from and what we think Americana is," he said. "What's unique about being a string band within this landscape is if we are going to have a foundation it's not going to be a Scruggs banjo — though we love that sound. It might be a clawhammer and an organ, building an almost polyrhythmic space."

Following a rigorous year that included 180 shows in 240 days, Mipso devoted January to what Sharp termed "flushing the system" and getting ready for a tour that stops at Saint Anselm College's Dana Center on Feb. 18. The band will open for Canadian roots stalwarts Ten Strings and a Goat Skin.

It's Mipso's first New Hampshire show.

"We've played all around it, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maine and Vermont," Sharp said. "We're stoked."

While preparing for the winter run, Mipso worked on ideas for a follow-up to *Old Time Reverie*. While experimenting more with electric and percussion instrumentation, they keep an eye to the past.

"We've been taking a lot of time to reflect on the '70s," Sharp said. "With Bowie passing, it's a nice time to look back at the roots when some of these transitions into what we now call Americana started happening; there is a ton from that era."

As for the band's quirky moniker, here's the story: A first gig was booked without a name. Days before the show, a local newspaper called and they had 20 minutes to think of something. No one remembers how Mipso was chosen, but in subsequent interviews band members invented different reasons. A fun game, to be sure, but the Internet took note of every fabricated explanation.

"Now they're cemented on our Wikipedia page," Sharp said with a laugh. "If you want to pick a more creative one, you're welcome to." 🍷

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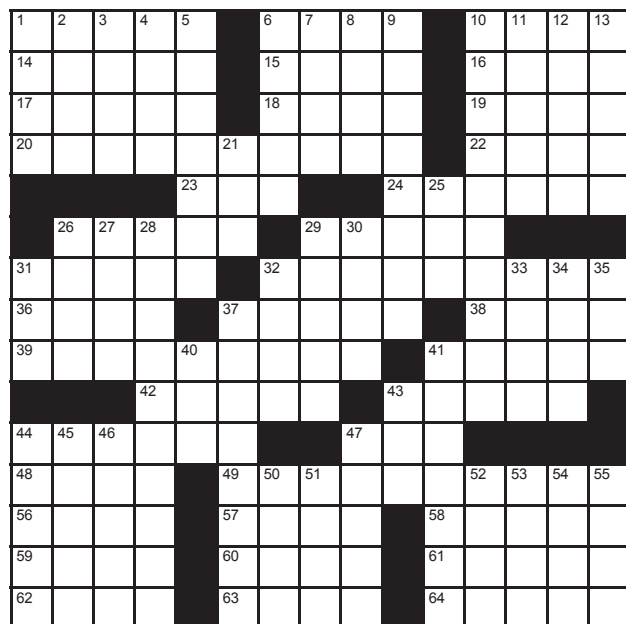
Gone Phishing!

Across

1. Kind of 'Man', to Village People
6. Phish keyman McConnell
10. Phish "Erupts into your ___ and heart"
14. 'R&B singer that sang w/Afghan Whigs
15. Legend
16. Phish "Though ___, I don't stare" (1,3)
17. Phish-head might name theirs after a

member

18. Anastasio of Phish rips this, during solo
19. Phish "When we're alone we all seem to ___"
20. Phish "I think that this exact thing ___ me, just last year" (8,2)
22. Phish "I'm ___ to him, or him to me"
23. 80s skater movie 'Send Me An Angel' was in



24. Warrant 'Dirty Rotten ___ Stinking Rich'
26. Phish has a cluster of them in 'Farmhouse'
29. ___ MacGowan And The Popes
31. Bob of Hüsker Dü
32. '02 Tom Petty album (3,4,2)
36. Caused 'Esther' her demise in Phish song
37. Fluttering vocal sound
38. Three piece band
39. Roadie
41. The Who 'Love, ___ O'er Me'
42. 1968's 'Maybe Tomorrow' band
43. 'Funktown' ___, Inc.
44. Nirvana '___: The Best Of The Box'
47. Phish sings of "world's greatest" one on 'Fuego'
48. Tori Amos album 'Boys For ___'
49. "Baby, I got sick this mornin', a sea was stormin' ___" (6,2,2)
56. Phish "Do tigers sleep in ___ patches?"
57. Can get Phish this, in Dry Goods on

2/11



website

58. Phish "When I ___ to step inside, I moved to where they'd hoped I'd be"
59. Phish's Billy Preston cover 'Will ___ Round In Circles' (2,2)
60. Cure 'Grinding ___'
61. Phish tells us to make this in 'Golden Age'
62. 'O Brother, Where Art ___?' soundtrack
63. Phish leader Anastasio
64. Phish covered 'Rocket Man' by this John

Down

1. Phish "So ___ to do so why oh why weigh?"
2. Cornershop 'Brimful Of ___'
3. UK electropop band Hot ___
4. Phish "Asking you to ___ me make it"
5. Did this to Phish CD on Amazon
6. Phish "Got strange demands ___ up on me"
7. Like breezed-through audition
8. moe. sings of a 'Billy' one
9. '02 Mudvayne album 'The ___ Things To Come' (3,2,3)
10. '88 Bobby Brown hit 'Every ___' (6,4)
11. Phish "When they ___ on me I reject it" (3,2)
12. 80s 'Buffalo Stance' Cherry
13. Rush bassist/keyman Lee
21. Jazz musician Olu Dara's rapper son
25. Phish 'Sample ___ Jar' (2,1)
26. Part of body Phish said 'Bye Bye' to
27. "Be bop a ___, she's my baby"

28. First words in Phish tix barter (3,4,3)
29. Have to watch these from low-flying hula hoops at Phish shows
30. Phish "She burst through the door with puppet ___ high"
31. "Tender love, love so tender" Force ___
32. What Anastasio of Phish uses in a cafeteria
33. What "adventurous" Phish fan might do at show
34. Phish 'Quadrophenia' cover lyrics: "I am man who reveals all he ___"
35. Phish drummer Fishman
37. Phish "With ___ device you can make a pattern grow" (3,5)
40. At MSG Phish plays New Year's this
41. C'mon N' Ride ___ (___ Train) (4,3)
43. Male Phish-head that went to tons of shows started when he was this
44. Phish will do this before they 'Open And Melt'
45. Daisy Chainsaw's Belinda
46. Phish "I don't know, but I think ___" (3,2)
47. Kind of 'Jobs' Phish does on 34. Down
50. Phish "Taste the fear, for the devil's drawing ___"
51. Phans have lots of stuff for this, in parking lot
52. Like Phish A cappella song
53. You throw this in the air during fav Phish song
54. Phish "Take ___ another place, she said" (2,2)
55. Amp Gordon of Phish uses from God's garden?

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MUSIC THIS WEEK

Amherst LaBelle Winery 345 Rte 101 672-9898	Penuche's Ale House 6 Pleasant St. 228-9833 Pit Road Lounge 388 Loudon Road 226-0533 Red Blazer 72 Manchester St. 224-4101 Tandy's Top Shelf 1 Eagle Sq. 856-7614 True Brew Barista 3 Bicentennial Sq. 225-2776	East Hampstead Pasta Loft 220 E. Main St. 378-0092 Epping Holy Grail 64 Main St. 679-9559 Telly's 235 Calef Hwy 679-8225 Tortilla Flat 1-11 Brickyard Sq 734-2725 Popovers 11 Brickyard Sq 734-4724	Millie's Tavern 17 L St. 967-4777 North Beach Bar & Grille 931 Ocean Blvd. 967-4884 Old Salt 409 Lafayette Rd. 926-8322 Ron's Landing 379 Ocean Blvd 929-2122 Savory Square Bistro 32 Depot Sq 926-2202 Sea Ketch 127 Ocean Blvd. 926-0324 Stacy Jane's 9 Ocean Blvd. 929-9005 The Goat 20 L St. 601-6928 Wally's Pub 144 Ashworth Ave. 926-6954	Capri Pizza 76 Derry St 880-8676 JD Chaser's 2B Bumham Rd 886-0792 Nan King 222 Central St. 882-1911 SoHo 49 Lowell Rd 889-6889	Laconia Anthony's Pier 263 Lakeside Ave. 366-5855 Baja Beach Club 89 Lake St. 524-0008 Broken Spoke Saloon 1072 Watson Rd 866-754-2526 Faro Italian Grille 72 Endicott St. 527-8073 Fratello's 799 Union Ave. 528-2022 Holy Grail of the Lakes 12 Veterans Square 737-3000 Margate Resort 76 Lake St. 524-5210 Naswa Resort 1086 Weirs Blvd. 366-4341 Paradise Beach Club 322 Lakeside Ave. 366-2665 Patio Garden Lakeside Ave. Pitman's Freight Room 94 New Salem St. 527-0043 Tower Hill Tavern 264 Lakeside Ave. 366-9100 Weirs Beach Lobster Pound 72 Endicott St. 366-2255	Shorty's 1050 Bicentennial Drive 625-1730 South Side Tavern 1279 S Willow St. 935-9947 Strange Brew Tavern 88 Market St. 666-4292 Thrifty's Soundstage 1015 Candia Road 603-518-5413 Tin Roof Tavern 333 Valley St. 792-1110 Wild Rover 21 Kosciuszko St. 669-7722	Moultonborough Castle in the Clouds 455 Old Mountain Road 478-5900 Nashua 110 Grill 27 Trafalgar Sq. 943-7443 5 Dragons 29 Railroad Sq. 578-0702 Arena 53 High St. 881-9060 Boston Billiard Club 55 Northeastern Blvd. 943-5630 Burton's Grill 310 Daniel Webster Highway 888-4880 Country Tavern 452 Amherst St. 889-5871 Dolly Shakers 38 East Hollis St. 577-1718 Fody's Tavern 9 Clinton St. 577-9015 Fratello's Italian Grille 194 Main St. 889-2022 Haluwa Lounge Nashua Mall 883-6662 Killarney's Irish Pub 9 Northeastern Blvd. 888-1551 O'Shea's 449 Amherst St. 943-7089 Peddler's Daughter 48 Main St. 821-7535 Portland Pie Company 14 Railroad Sq 882-7437 Riverwalk 35 Railroad Sq 578-0200 Shorty's 48 Gusabel Ave. 882-4070 Stella Blu 70 E. Pearl St. 578-5557 Thirsty Turtle 8 Temple St. 402-4136
Bow Chen Yang Li 520 South St. 228-8508	Claremont New Socials 2 Pleasant St. 287-4416	Exeter Pimentos 69 Water St. 583-4501 Shooter's Pub 6 Columbus Ave. 772-3856	Hanover Salt Hill Pub 7 Lebanon St. 676-7855 Canoe Club 27 S. Main St. 643-9660		Manchester A&E Cafe 1000 Elm St. 578-3338 Amoskeag Studio 250 Commercial St. 315-9320 Breezeway Pub 14 Pearl St. 621-9111 British Beer Company 1071 S. Willow St. 232-0677 Cactus Jack's 782 South Willow St. 627-8600 Central Ale House 23 Central St. 660-2241 City Sports Grille 216 Maple St. 625-9656 Club ManchVegas 50 Old Granite St. 222-1677 Crazy Camel Hookah and Cigar Lounge 245 Maple St. 518-5273 Derryfield Country Club 625 Mammoth Rd 623-2880 Whiskey 20 20 Old Granite St. 641-2583 Fratello's 155 Dow St. 624-2022 Ignite Bar & Grille 100 Hanover St. 494-6225 Imago Dei 123 Hanove St. Jewel 61 Canal St. 836-1152 Karma Hookah & Cigar Bar 1077 Elm St. 647-6653 KC's Rib Shack 837 Second St. 627-RIBS Midnight Rodeo (Yard) 1211 S. Mammoth Rd 623-3545 Milly's Tavern 500 Commercial St. 625-4444 Modern Gypsy 383 Chestnut st. Murphy's Taproom 494 Elm St. 644-3535 N'awlins Grille 860 Elm St. 606-2488 Penuche's 96 Hanover St. 626-9830 Portland Pie Company 786 Elm St. 622-7437 Salona Bar & Grill 128 Maple St. 624-4020 Shaskeen 909 Elm St. 625-0246	Mason Marty's Driving Range 96 Old Turnpike Rd 878-1324 Meredith Giuseppe's Ristorante 312 DW Hwy 279-3313 Merrimack Homestead 641 DW Hwy 429-2022 Jade Dragon 515 DW Hwy 424-2280 Pacific Fusion 356 DW Hwy 424-6320 Tortilla Flat 594 Daniel Webster Hwy 262-1693 Milford Aden China 437 Nashua St. 672-2388 Chapanga's 168 Elm St. 249-5214 Clark's on the Corner 40 Nashua St. 769-3119 J's Tavern 63 Union Square 554-1433 Lefty's Lanes 244 Elm St. 554-8300 Pasta Loft 241 Union Square 672-2270 Shaka's Bar & Grill 11 Wilton Rd 554-1224 Tiebreakers at Hampshire Hills 50 Emerson Rd 673-7123 Union Coffee Co. 42 South St. 554-8879 Valentino's 28 Jones Rd. 672-2333	New Boston Molly's Tavern 35 Mont Vernon Rd 487-2011 Newbury Goosefeathers Pub Mt. Sunapee 763-3500 Salt Hill Pub 1407 Rt 103 763-2667 New Castle Wentworth By The Sea 588 Wentworth Rd 422-7322

Thursday, Feb. 18 Bedford Copper Door: Chad Lamarsh	Dover 7th Settlement: Poor Howard & the Bullfrog Cara: Bluegrass w/ Steve Roy Fury's: The Feel Goods	Hanover Canoe Club: Cyn Barrette Trio Salt hill Pub: Irish Trad' Session Randy Miller/Roger Kahle	Fratello's: Jazz Night Funktion: Charlie Chronopolous Jewel: Blood on the Dance Floor Karma: DJ Midas, SP1 & Reed on drums Shaskeen: Color Collective Strange Brew: Jon Ross Big Night of Bluegrass Whiskey's 20: DJs Shawn White/ Ryan Nichols/Mike Mazz Wild Rover: Peter Higgins	Milford Aden China: DJ Brian Chapanga's: Joe McDonald Union Coffee: Kevin Williams	Peterborough Harlow's: Bluegrass Night
Boscawen Alan's: John Pratte	Epping Telly's: Tim Theriault	Lebanon Salt hill: Celtic Open Session		Nashua Arena: College Night, DJ Hizzy Fratello's: Amanda McCarthy Riverwalk Cafe: Wrong is Right	Plaistow Racks: Blues Jam, Steve Devine
Concord Granite: CJ Poole & The Sophisticated Approach Hermanos: Mike Morris Penuche's Ale House: Mindseye	Exeter Station 19: Thursday Night Live	Londonderry Coach Stop: RC Thomas	Merrimack Homestead: Ryan Williamson	Newmarket Riverworks: Dan Walker Stone Church: Irish Music w/ Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki & Jim Prendergast	Portsmouth Birdseye: New Legs, Sam Hill Dolphin Striker: Elissa Margolin Fat Belly's: DJ Flex Portsmouth Book & Bar: Nathaniel's Ghost Press Room: Dave Gerard Red Door: Green Lion Crew Thirsty Moose: Mike's Attic

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Stone Church
5 Granite St. 659-7700
Three Chimneys
17 Newmarket Rd.
868-7800

Newport
Salt Hill Pub
58 Main St. 863-7774

Peterborough
Harlow's Pub
3 School St. 924-6365

Pelham
Shooters
116 Bridge St. 635-3577

Pittsfield
Molly's Tavern
32 Main St. 487-2011

Plaistow
Crow's Nest
181 Plaistow Road
974-1686
Racks Bar & Grill
20 Plaistow Road
974-2406

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid Island
409 The Hill 427-2583

Weare
Stark House: Lisa Guyer Solo

Windham
Common Man: Mark Huzar

Friday, Feb. 19
Belmont
Lakes Region Casino: DJ Mark

Boscawen
Alan's: Jim Hollis

Concord
Makris: Brickyard Blues
Pit Road: Midnight Crisis
Red Blazer: New Prophets
Tandy's: DJ Iceman Streetz
(105.5 JYY)
True Brew: Jake Davis and the
Whiskey Stones

Derry
Drae: Brian House
Hilltop Spot: Gardner Berry

Dover
Cara: Club night, DJ Shawwny O
Dover Brickhouse: Acoustic
Radio
Fury's Publick House: Gretchen
And The Pickpockets
Top of the Chop: Funkadelic
Fridays

British Beer Company
103 Hanover St. 501-
0515
Cafe Nostimo
72 Mirona Rd. 436-3100
Demeters Steakhouse
3612 Lafayette Rd.
766-0001
Dolphin Striker
15 Bow St. 431-5222
Fat Belly's
2 Bow St. 610-4227
Grill 28
200 Grafton Road
433-1331
Hilton Garden Inn
100 High St. 431-1499
Lazy Jacks
58 Ceres St. 294-0111
Martingale Wharf
99 Bow St. 431-0901
Oar House
55 Ceres St.
436-4025
Portsmouth Book
& Bar
40 Pleasant St. 427-9197
Portsmouth Gas Light
64 Market St. 430-9122
Press Room
77 Daniel St. 431-5186
Red Door
107 State St. 373-6827
Redhook Brewery
1 Redhook Way
430-8600
Ri Ra Irish Pub
22 Market Sq 319-1680
Rudi's
20 High St. 430-7834
Rusty Hammer
49 Pleasant St. 319-6981
Thirsty Moose
21 Congress St.
427-8645

Raymond
Cork n' Keg
4 Essex Drive 244-1573
Rochester
Gary's
38 Milton Rd 335-4279
Governor's Inn
78 Wakefield St.
332-0107
Lilac City Grille
103 N. Main St. 332-
3984
Revolution Tap Room
61 N Main St. 244-3022
Radloff's
38 N. Main St. 948-1073
Smokey's Tavern
11 Farmington 330-3100
Salem
Barking Bean
163 Main St. 458-2885
Black Water Grill
43 Pelham Rd 328-9013
Jocelyn's Lounge
355 S Broadway
870-0045
Sayde's Restaurant
136 Cluff Crossing
890-1032
Seabrook
Castaways
209 Ocean Blvd
760-7500
Chop Shop
920 Lafayette Rd
760-7706
Somersworth
Hideout Grill at the
Oaks
100 Hide Away Place
692-6257

Epping
Holy Grail: Rob Walker
Popovers: Ryan Williamson
Telly's: Scott McRae
Gilford
Patrick's: Doug Thompson

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Bobby &
Amberly

Hampton
Savory Square: Dave Gerard

Hanover
Canoe Club: Emma Howeiler

Henniker
Sled Pub: Kenny Weiland

Hillsborough
Turismo: Resistor

Laconia
Pitman's Freight Room:
Roberto Morbioli Blues Band

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Steve Sibulkin

Manchester
City Sports Grille: DJ Dave
Derryfield: Eric Grant Band

Kelley's Row
417 Route 108
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Old Rail Pizza Co.
6 Main St. 841-7152

Sunapee
One Mile West Tavern
6 Brook Road 863-7500
Sunapee Coffee House
Rte. 11 Lower Main St.
229-1859

Suncook
Olympus Pizza
42 Allenstown Rd.
485-5288

Tilton
Black Swan Inn
354 W Main St.
286-4524

Warner
Local
2 E Main St. 456-6066

Weare
Stark House Tavern
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529-7747

West Lebanon
Seven Barrel Brewery
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Windham
Common Man
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Jonathon's Lounge
Park Place Lanes,
Route 28 800-892-0568
Red's Tavern
22 Haverhill Dr.
437-7251

Fratello's: Chris Cavanaugh
Karma: Jenni Lynn Duo
ManchVegas: Boys Of
Rockingham
Murphy's Taproom: Take 4
N'awlins: Boo Boo Groove
Penuche's: Hot Day at the Zoo
Queen's Pub: Point of Vu
Shaskeen: Cold Chocolate
Strange Brew: Amorphous Band
Tin Roof: Fridays With Frydae
Whiskey's 20: DJs Jason Spivak
& Sammy Smoove
Wild Rover: D-Comp Duo

Merrimack
Homestead: Kieran McNally
Jade Dragon: SoulMate Band

Milford
Aden China: DJ Brian
Pasta Loft: Sage & Whiskey
Tiebreakers: Steve Tolley

Nashua
Boston Billiard: Mike Spaulding
Dolly Shakers: None More Black
Fratello's: Paul Luff
Haluwa: Queens over Kings
O'Shea's: Hallorans
Peddler's Daughter: Driving
South
Riverwalk: Ervin Dhimo Trio
Stella Blu: Joe McDonald

New Boston
Molly's: Joel Cage

Newmarket
Riverworks: Michael Troy
Stone Church: Cats Under the Stars

Peterborough
Harlow's: Town Meeting Band

Plaistow
Crow's Nest: Blackheart
Racks: Justified

Portsmouth
Birdseye: Wild Adriatic and the Mallett Brothers Band
Demeters: Wendy Nottonson
Dolphin Striker: Jim Dozet Trio
Fat Belly's: DJ Cootz
Martingale: Jimmy & Marcelle
Press Room: Viva La Hop
Red Door: Shit Robot/Juan MacLean
Ri Ra: By Request
Thirsty Moose: Stop Tito Collective
White Heron: Vincent Pinegar

Rochester
Radloff's: Dancing Madly Backwards Duo

Seabrook
Chop Shop: Radio Star

Weare
Stark House: Doug Farrell

Saturday, Feb. 20
Belmont
LR Casino: Jodie Cunningha

Boscawen
Alan's: Jordan Tyrrell Wysocki

Bow
Chen Yang Li: Mindset X

Bristol
Purple Pit: Swing Rocket

Concord
Hermanos: Mike Stockbridge
Penuche's: Blacklight Ruckus
Pit Road Lounge: Stray Dog
Tandy's: DJ Iceman Streetz
True Brew: Jake Davis & The Whiskey Stones

Derry
Drae: Triana Wilson
Hilltop: Lisa Guyer/Clint Lapointe

Dover
Cara: Club night, DJ Shawwny O

Dover Brickhouse: Hip-hop Night: Skee, Ape the Grim, Undu Kati, Kingdom, Seth on Gray St
Fury's: Frank Viele

Epping
Holy Grail: Rob & Dan
Telly's: Joe McDonald
Tortilla Flat: Chris Cavanaugh

Gilford
Patrick's: Jared Steer

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Bone Shakerz

Hampton
Savory Square: Mel & John

Hanover
Canoe Club: Party Crashers

Henniker
Sled Pub: Thr33 Band

Hillsborough
Turismo: Lip Sync Battle

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Kim Riley

Loudon
Hungry Buffalo: Shameless NH

Manchester
City Sports Grille: Soul Income
Derryfield: Chad LaMarsh Band
Fratello's: Justin Cohn
Karma: Hallorans
ManchVegas: Never In Vegas
Midnight Rodeo: Colin Axxxwell Band
Murphy's: Best Not Broken
N'awlin's: Jazz Guitar Project
Queen's Pub: By Request Band
Shaskeen: Martin and Kelly
Strange Brew: 2120 S. Michigan Avenue
Whiskey's 20: DJ Hizzy/Shawn White
Wild Rover: Paul Costley & Brad Myrick Duo

Merrimack
Homestead: Paul Luff

Milford
Aden China: DJ Brian
Pasta Loft: Hoot
Shaka's: Lux

Nashua
Boston Billiard Club: DJ Anthem Throwback
Dolly Shakers: Undercover
Fody's: Stunt Double Riot

Fratello's: Ryan Williamson
Haluwa: Queens over Kings
O'Shea's: Ghost Cats
Peddler's Daughter: Mindseye
Riverwalk Cafe: Bella's Bartok
Stella Blu: Rampage Trio

Newbury
Goosefeathers: Dr. Harp Trio

Newmarket
Stone Church: Yazeen - Late Show

Newport
Salt Hill Pub Newport: Jake Davis & The Whiskey Stones

Peterborough
Harlow's: Duncan Pelletier

Plaistow
Crow's Nest: Rosie's
Racks: Spare Change

Portsmouth
Blue Mermaid: Joe Young
Demeters: Sharon Jones
Dolphin Striker: George Belli & the Retroactivists
Fat Belly's: DJ Provo
Hilton Garden: Dave Gerard
Martingale: Brandon Lepere
Portsmouth Book & Bar: Wendy Nottonson Trio
Red Door: Lord Bass/Kinetic
Ri Ra: Mugsy
Thirsty Moose: Lost Articles

Raymond
Cork n Keg: Charlie Keating Band

Salem
Barking Bean: Dave LaCroix

Seabrook
Chop Shop: Bite the Bullet

Weare
Stark House Tavern: Erik Ray

Sunday, Feb. 21
Bedford
Copper Door: Jim Devlin

Concord
Hermanos: Mike Stockbridge

Dover
Cara: Irish Session w/ Carol Coronis & Ramona Connelly
Dover Brickhouse: Jazz Brunch
Sonny's: Sonny's Jazz

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Blues Jam



UPCOMING EVENTS

2/19 TAKE 4 9:30 PM
2/20 BEST NOT BROKEN 9:30 PM
2/26 JAMSTERDAM 9:30 PM
2/27 MUGSY 9:30 PM



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COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Thursday, Feb. 18 Hudson Soho: Alana Susko Comedy on Purpose	Saturday, Feb. 20 Hollis Alpine Grove: Steve Guilmette (Merrimack Police Union Benefit)	Laconia Pitman's: Frank Santorelli/Dan Crohn	Manchester Headliners: Rob Steen Palace Theatre: Frank Santos, Jr.
Friday, Feb. 19 Nashua Chunky's Pub: Lenny Clarke (also 2/20)	Hudson Soho: Comedy and Chinese Buffet	Londonderry Tupelo Music Hall: Orlando Baxter/Abhishek Shah/Mark Bedard	Newmarket Stone Church: Kelly McFarland

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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Hanover
Canoe Club: Randall Mullen

Hillsborough
Mama McDonough's: Brad Bosse

Laconia
Pitman's: Michael Vincent
Band: Coming Home Party

Manchester
Queen's Pub: Boo Boo Groove
Shaskeen: Blue Five @ 5pm + Rap/Industry Night
Strange Brew: Jam
Wild Rover: DJ Music

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Open Stage with Lou Porrazzo

Nashua
Burton's Grill: Aaron Chase
Riverwalk Cafe: Doublebacks/
 Open Celtic Sessions

Newmarket
Stone Church: Funky Divas of Gospel

Portsmouth
Dolphin Striker: Chris Lester
Press Room: The Fringe
Red Door: Trap Night w/Adfero
Rudi's: Jazz Brunch

Rochester
Lilac City Grille: Brunch
 Music at 9:30am
Radloff's: James McGarvey

Warner
Schoodacs: Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki

Monday, Feb. 22
Concord
Hermanos: Eric Chase

NITE CONCERTS

Capitol Center for the Performing Arts 44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com
he Flying Monkey 39 S. Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com
The Music Hall 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusichall.org
Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St.,

Hanover
Canoe: Marko the Magician
Salt hill Pub: Hootenanny

Manchester
Central Ale: Jonny Friday Duo
Fratello's: Rob Wolfe or Phil Jacques
Merrimack
Homestead: Doug Thompson

Nashua
Dolly Shakers: Monday's Muse w Lisa Guyer
Fratello's: Kelsie Hinds

Newmarket
Stone Church: Blues Jam w/ Wild Eagles Blues Band

Portsmouth
Dolphin Striker: Old School
Press Room: Brad Hallen Trio
Red Door: Hush Hush w/ Alex Smith
Ri Ra: Oran Mor

Tuesday, Feb. 23
Concord
Hermanos: Eric Chase

Dover
Fury's: Tim Theriault and Friends
Sonny's: Soggy Po' Boys

Hanover
Canoe Club: Tom Pirozzoli

Manchester
Fratello's: Phil Jacques
Shaskeen: Tristan Omand
Strange Brew: Amanda Cote
Whiskey's 20: Sammy Smoove & DJ Gera

Nashua
Fratello's: Brad Bosse

Newmarket
Stone Church: Bluegrass Jam w/ Dave Talmage + SC House Jazz Band

Portsmouth
Dolphin Striker: Chuck N John
Press Room: Larry Garland
 Jazz Jam w/Hootmeister/Chad Verbeck

Wednesday, Feb. 24
Concord
Hermanos: Joel Cage

Dover
Fury's: The Freestones

Gilford
Patrick's: DJ Megan

Hanover
Canoe Club: TBD

Manchester
Fratello's: Jeff Mrozek
Tin Roof: DJ Vicious

Merrimack
Homestead: Amanda McCarthy
Tortilla Flat: MB Padfield

Nashua
Fratello's: Ted Solovicos

Portsmouth
Demeters: Dennis Coraccio
Dolphin Striker: Pete Peterson
Press Room: Nihco Gallo Trio
Red Door: Red On Red w/ Evaredy (Ladies Night)
Ri Ra: Erin's Guild

Rochester
Lilac City Grille: Tim Theriault - Ladies Night
Radloff's: Tony Santesse - Ladies Night

p.m. Tupelo
 • **Lone Bellow/Escondido** Wednesday, Feb. 24, 7:30 p.m. Music Hall
 • **Johnny Winter Legacy Band** Feat. Paul Nelson And James Montgomery Thursday, Feb. 25, 8 p.m. Tupelo
 • **Jason Aldean** Thursday, Feb. 25, 8 p.m. Verizon Wireless Arena
 • **Aztec Two-Step** Friday, Feb. 26, 8 p.m. Tupelo
 • **Robert Cray** Friday, Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m. Flying Monkey
 • **Session Americana** Friday, Feb. 26, 7 p.m. Silver Center

• **Rodrigo Amarante (Solo)** Friday, Feb. 26, 8 p.m. Music Hall Loft
 • **La Santa Cecilia** Saturday, Feb. 27, 8 p.m. Rochester Opera House
 • **Tom Rush** Saturday, Feb. 27, 8 p.m. Tupelo
 • **Jim Brickman** Saturday, Feb. 27, 8 p.m. Palace Theatre
 • **10,000 Maniacs** Saturday, Feb. 27, 8 p.m. Colonial Theatre
 • **Mike Donovan Comedy** Saturday, Feb. 27, 8 p.m. Cap Center
 • **Mr. Nick's Northeast Harmonica Showdown** Sunday, Feb. 28, 8 p.m. Cap Center

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Across

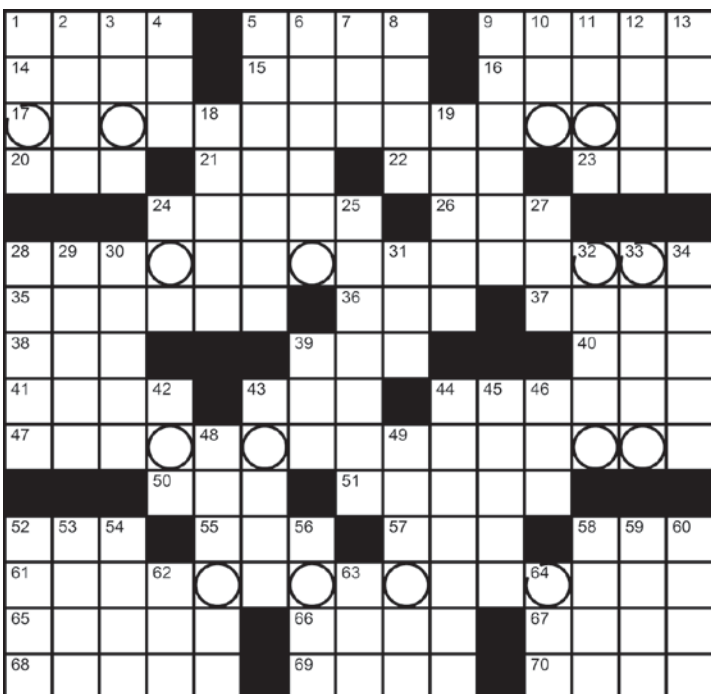
1 1990 Gerardo hit "___ Suave"
 5 Depeche ___
 9 Guardian Angels hat
 14 See 28-Down
 15 Apple MP3 player
 16 Battery terminal

17 Sondheim song that starts "Isn't it rich?"
 20 "Right now"
 21 102, to Caesar
 22 Apprehend
 23 Have a meal
 24 "Platoon" star Willem

26 Altared statement?
 28 Park where Citi Field is located
 35 Chinese tea variety
 36 Tiresome, like a joke
 37 In a ___ (teed off)
 38 Back muscle, for short
 39 "Inglourious Basterds" org.
 40 .com kin
 41 Grammy-nominated Macy Gray song of 2000
 43 Australian coat of arms bird
 44 Sir Thomas the tea merchant
 47 Capricious activity, in a colorful metaphor
 50 Corp. takeover strategy
 51 "My Dog Has ___"
 52 "The Simpsons" storekeeper
 55 Actor/writer Barinholtz of "The Mindy Project"

57 Pai ___ (Chinese casino game)
 58 Do a lawn chore
 61 Goes cuckoo for
 65 Nickname for the new host of "Celebrity Apprentice"
 66 Extremely urgent
 67 First Great Lake, alphabetically
 68 Picks up a book
 69 Litigation instigator
 70 Outsmart

e.g.
 27 Component of wpm
 28 With 14-Across, vitamin B9
 29 Hardly eager
 30 Intro for sound or violet
 31 Portland Timbers org.
 32 "And ___ grow on"
 33 Lehar operetta "The Merry ___"
 34 Astounds
 39 "That's amazing!" to a texter
 42 Designer monogram
 43 Edible mushroom of Japan
 44 Completely cover
 45 Astounded
 46 "Antiques Roadshow" ailer
 48 Birds with curved bills
 49 "An Inconvenient Truth" presenter
 52 Hardly close
 53 Peel, as an apple
 54 Bone near the biceps
 56 Closings
 58 Marshy ground
 59 Milo's pug pal, in a 1986 film
 60 Stimulate, as an appetite
 62 Ball cap
 63 "Elementary" star Lucy
 64 Fly catcher



2/11



Down

1 Speak with a grating voice
 2 How some like their coffee
 3 Five, to Francois
 4 Without a match
 5 Lego person or character, slangily
 6 This or that, e.g.
 7 "Yeah, that's what they all say. They all say ___": Chief Wiggum
 8 Garden of ___ (Biblical site)
 9 Last name in 2015's "Creed"
 10 "Achtung Baby" co-producer Brian
 11 "Dirty Jobs" host Mike
 12 "Dame" Everage
 13 Blood work, e.g.
 18 Billionaire corporate investor Carl
 19 Gave in
 24 Award for a Brit. officer
 25 Do a Google search on yourself,

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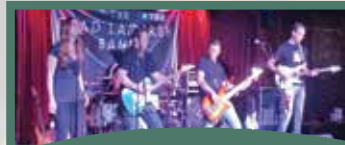
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All quotes are from *Wildflower*, by Drew Barrymore, born Feb. 22, 1975.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 – Feb. 18) *Just when I had mastered laundry, I was panicking all over again. What did I want to learn? What was my calling? Tears. I don't know. ... Failure was not an option! I would create my own curriculum. Live and learn.*

Pisces (Feb. 19 – March 20) *Everyone said good night and dispersed, leaving us to our own devices and to crap in nature, brush teeth, take in the beauty, etc. I just sat there on the rock, mad. A nature walk might do you some good.*

Aries (March 21 – April 19) *Standing over the sink, I just felt lost and stupid. ... I was sucked in every way and the evidence was everywhere. It was all a sprawling avalanche of every bowl in my cabinet filled with wrong mixtures and flour and spills and splats of eggs and sugar.... There might be a mess, but don't leap to conclusions about it.*

Taurus (April 20 – May 20) *When I was seven years old, I went on The Tonight Show ... and when I walked out to go up on the stage, I slipped and totally ate it. I think that was the first time I recall feeling humiliated. People said it was cute. But inside I knew I simply couldn't put one foot in front of the other as well as I should. No amount of "oh, but it was cute" can un-humiliate a person.*

Gemini (May 21 – June 20) *One of the questions I get asked most, other than "Why are you so much shorter in person?," is "How do you do so much?" It's going to be a busy week.*

Cancer (June 21 – July 22) *I wrote this book without assuming anyone would ever read it. And yet I wrote for you, the person reading this right now. All you can do is put it out there.*

Leo (July 23 – Aug. 22) *I was seething*

alone in the bushes, furiously eating peelu because no one would officially talk to me. What was I going through in life? I was twenty-five — was this my midlife crisis? Your crisis doesn't need a name so much as it needs a solution.

Virgo (Aug. 23 – Sept. 22) *I love flowers. I protect flowers. ... And I wonder to this day if those birds-of-paradise ever grew their heads back. The ghosts of them bloom fresh in my memory all the time. They, like all of us in this neighborhood, were wild. Let us all be like them and defy tradition, and yet create our own traditions at the same time. Let us all be wildflowers! You'd just better hope somebody waters you.*

Libra (Sept. 23 – Oct. 22) *The truth is, I find acting jobs when something comes along and I just can't stop thinking about it. It will keep me up at night! A fire starts inside me that I cannot extinguish. I start relating it to my own personal experiences. I start seeing what I could do with it. That thing you can't stop thinking about? Get creative with it.*

Scorpio (Oct. 23 – Nov. 21) *We [Adam Sandler and I] both are truly dying to remake On Golden Pond because it takes place on our favorite lake in New Hampshire.... Don't remake something without a good reason.*

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 – Dec. 21) *Back at the coffeehouse, my boss was having another "you suck at this" moment with me. ... I looked around: This wasn't it. This wasn't my destiny. Right idea, wrong coffeehouse. Or vice versa.*

Capricorn (Dec. 22 – Jan. 19) *... I was settling down with my new garden and my new cookbooks and trying to play the part of the character I have never been able to master ... THE GROWN-UP. I thought that herb boxes and homemade meatballs were the gateway to maturity. You and your meatballs are maturing together. 🍷*

NITE SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

			2				
4		5		7		8	3
	9					1	
			3		8		5
	6					9	
7			5		1		
	8					7	
9		7		4		2	1
				9			

Difficulty Level ★★

2/18

SUDOKU

Fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Last week's puzzle answers are below

2/11

4	1	6	7	2	3	9	8	5
7	3	9	1	5	8	4	6	2
8	5	2	9	6	4	1	7	3
1	8	7	6	9	5	3	2	4
9	6	5	4	3	2	8	1	7
3	2	4	8	7	1	5	9	6
6	9	3	5	8	7	2	4	1
5	7	1	2	4	9	6	3	8
2	4	8	3	1	6	7	5	9

Difficulty Level ★★★

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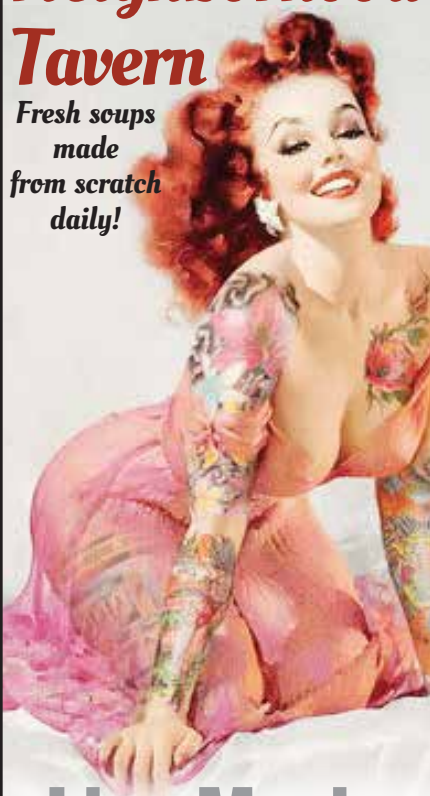


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Intelligent design

Wired.com's most recent "Absurd Creature" feature shows a toad devouring a larva of a much-smaller beetle, but the "absurdity" is that the larva is in charge and that the toad will soon be beetle food. The larva's Darwinian advantage is that, inside the toad, it bites the hapless "predator" with its hooked jaws and then secretes enzymes to begin decomposing the toad's tissue (making it edible) and provoking it to vomit the still-alive larva.

Achievements in laziness

An 80-year-old man and a 37-year-old woman were ticketed in separate incidents in Canada the week of Jan. 18 when police spotted them driving cars completely caked in snow except for a small portion of the windshield. The man, from Brussels, Ontario, was driving a car resembling a "pile of snow on the road." The Halifax, Nova Scotia, woman's car was, a police statement said, "a snowbank with four wheels."

Great art!

Fed up with the "pretense" of the art world, performer (and radio personality) Lisa Levy of Brooklyn, New York, sat on a toilet, naked and motionless, at the Christopher Stout Gallery in January to protest artists' "BS" by presenting herself in the "humblest" way she could imagine. Visitors were invited to sit on a facing toilet (clothed or not) and interact with her in any way except for touching. Levy told the Bushwick Daily website that too much "ego," "like a drug," "distorts your reality."

Wait, what?

In January, the U.S. Department of Justice's inspector general recommended closing down a program of the department's Drug Enforcement Administration that paid employees of other federal agencies (Amtrak and the beloved Transportation Security Administration) for tips on suspicious passengers. (The program apparently ignored that federal employees have such a duty even without a bounty.) DEA was apparently interested in passengers traveling with large amounts of cash, which DEA could potentially seize if it suspected the money came from illegal activity (and also, of course, then keep the money under federal forfeiture law). According to the inspector general, the tipping TSA agent was to be rewarded with a cut of any forfeited money.

Chiropractor William DeAngelo of Stratford, Connecticut, was charged with assault in January after an employee complained that she was ordered to lie down on a table and let DeAngelo apply electrical shocks to her back as punishment for being the office gossip, spreading rumors about

colleagues. DeAngelo said he was reacting to complaints from patients and staff, but seemed to suggest in a statement to police that he was only "re-educating" the woman on how to use the electrical stimulator in the office's practice (though she felt the need to report to a hospital afterward).

Bright ideas

Christopher Lemek Jr. was arrested in Palmer, Massachusetts, in January and charged in a New Year's Eve hit-and-run accident that took a pedestrian's life. Lemek emerged as a suspect a few days after the collision when police, visiting his home, noticed freshly disturbed earth in his backyard. Eventually Lemek confessed to literally burying the evidence using a construction vehicle to crush his truck and an excavator to dig up his backyard and drop the truck into it.

No Need for a Pre-Nup: The 20-year New York marriage of Gabriel Villa, now 90, and Cristina Carta Villa, now 59, apparently had its happy moments, but as Cristina found out when things went bad recently, Gabriel had attempted to protect himself shortly after the wedding by obtaining a Dominican Republic divorce and keeping it secret. Cristina found out only when she realized in a property accounting that her name was not on the deed to their Manhattan apartment. (She is challenging that divorce as improper even under Dominican law.)

Suspicious confirmed

Several Connecticut state troopers involved in a DUI checkpoint in September were apparently caught on video deliberating whether to make up charges against a (perhaps obnoxious) checkpoint moni-

tor. Veteran protester Michael Picard, 27, posted the videos on his YouTube page in January, showing troopers (illegally) confiscating Picard's camera and suggesting among themselves various charges they could write up (at least some not warranted by evidence) to, as one trooper was heard imploring, "cover our asses." (The troopers returned the camera after deliberating, but seemed unaware that it had been running during the entire incident.) State police internal affairs officers are investigating.

Recurring themes

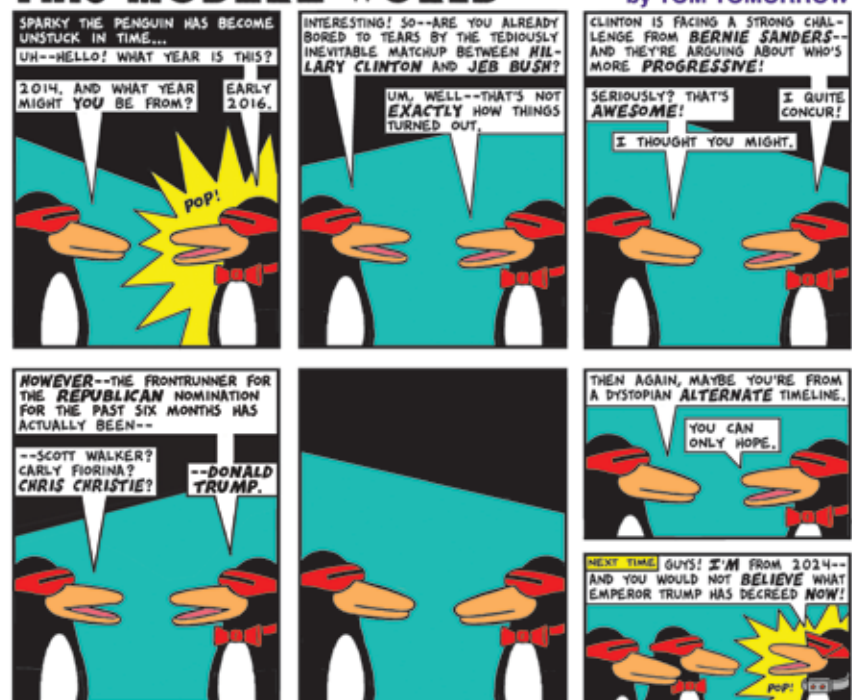
Few matters in life are weirder than the Scottish love of haggis (sheep's liver, heart, tongue and fat, blended with oats and seasonings, boiled inside a sheep's stomach to achieve its enticing gray color!), and in January, in honor of the Scottish poet-icon Robert Burns, prominent Peruvian chef Mitsuharu Tsumura joined Scotland's Paul Wedgwood to create haggis from, instead of sheep, guinea pig. Wedgwood said he was "proud" to raise haggis "to new gastro-nomic levels."

Least competent criminal

Briton Jacqueline Patrick, 55, was sentenced to 15 years in prison in December for the 2013 murder of her husband, accomplished by spiking his wine with anti-freeze. To cover her crime, she handed over a note the husband had supposedly written, requesting that if tragedy struck him, he wished not to be resuscitated, preferring to die with "dignerty" (sic). Suspicious, police asked Patrick to spell "dignity," which, of course, came out "dignerty."

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GLENGARRY BOYS



**Sun.,
 March 13**
 7:00 p.m.
 \$25
 GA

RICHARD SHINDELL



**Thurs.,
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 \$30
 RS-Tables

DERVISH



**Wed.,
 March 16**
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 ACOUSTIC DUO**



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